MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MAY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Habib Mission--Jerusalem radio reported after U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin on 27 May that Habib will return to Washington. Commenting on the Habib mission, Begin said that the diplomatic efforts will continue even though they have not borne any fruit so far, the radio added. Earlier Jerusalem radio reported a denial by an "official U.S. source" that Fatah official Salah Khalaf had participated in a meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Habib. The Jerusalem POST, citing the Lebanese weekly MONDAY MORNING, had earlier reported the meeting. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio described Habib's first round of talks as a failure, given his insistence on carrying Israeli demands with him. It voiced the opinion that Habib is not waiting for a message from Riyadh but rather a decision from Washington. The radio predicted that Washington will either limit Habib's mission, which will freeze Israeli military action until the right moment, or terminate it, which will mark the beginning of an Israeli military operation.

Butrus Press Conference--Speaking at a press conference broadcast by Beirut radio, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butrus said he is optimistic that the resolutions of the recent Arab League conference in Tunis can be implemented. Referring to Lebanon's relations with France, where he had stopped over briefly before returning to Beirut from Tunis, Butrus said he will deliver a personal message to Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis from the new French president, Francois Mitterrand.

PLO Diplomacy--The Voice of Palestine reported that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat returned to Beirut after visiting Libya and Romania. In Bucharest he discussed the situation in Lebanon with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The radio also reported that PLO Political Department director Abu Ja'far met in Beirut with Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov and that the PLO representative in Bulgaria attended a meeting in Sofia of Steadfastness and Confrontation Front ambassadors.

Military Situation--The Voice of Palestine and the Voice of Lebanon reported intermittent exchanges of gunfire in Beirut. According to the former, Israeli artillery shelled An-Nabatiyah and other Palestinian positions in the south. The latter reported Syrian sniper fire in Zahlah. It said that Libyan units took up positions in Beirut and that SAM-9 missiles have been installed in the coastal area south of the capital near Ad-Damur. The Voice of Lebanon also reported that helicopters escorted Syrian reinforcements into positions in the Al-Biqa' valley and surrounding hills this morning.

Jordan

King Husayn arrived in Moscow on a 3-day official visit, and President Leonid Brezhnev and other top Soviet officials met him at the airport, Jordanian and Soviet media reported. Amman radio later broadcast the announcer-read text of Husayn's speech at a banquet hosted by Brezhnev in which the Jordanian monarch welcomed the Soviet leader's call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the PLO. The Palestinian issue, Husayn said, is the touchstone on which the Arabs gauge the stands of states and people toward them. Husayn also emphasized Jordan's eagerness to play a role in the Nonaligned Movement and its support for Iraq in the war with Iran. He denounced Israel's aggression in Lebanon and, without mentioning the Syrians, called for an internal Lebanese dialogue involving the Palestinians that will guarantee the return of peace to that country. Referring to the security of the Arab nation as a whole, Husayn expressed support for the right of the Gulf states to defend themselves through their own collective security system and without foreign intervention or hegemony.

Syria

Damascus radio reported that a Syrian delegation headed by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-Atrash began talks in Moscow on a new 5-year economic agreement with the Soviet Union. Citing a Syrian oil official, the radio also said the talks will refer to Syrian-Soviet cooperation in drilling for oil in Syria.

OPEC Conference

Press Release--An OPEC press release issued at the close of the 25-26 May OPEC conference in Geneva, transmitted by OPECNA, reported that the conference decided to maintain the marker crude oil price at a ceiling of $36 per barrel and the maximum OPEC crude oil price at $41 per barrel until the end of the year. According to the release, the majority of the member countries decided to cut production by a minimum of 10 percent as of 1 June.

Saudi Stance--SPA, quoting the Saudi under secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs and member of the kingdom's OPEC delegation, said Saudi Arabia does not accept the fixing of its production within the OPEC framework but will base its oil output on market conditions. According to SPA, the under secretary confirmed that the price of Saudi oil will remain at $32 per barrel until the kingdom decides on new prices.

Gulf Summit

The Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council issued a final statement at the close of its first meeting on 26 May in Abu Dhabi. The statement, carried by Abu Dhabi radio, announced the establishment of the Cooperation Council of the Arab Gulf states, the appointment of former Kuwaiti envoy to the United Nations 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah as secretary general of the council and the selection of Riyadh as the permanent headquarters. According to the statement, the council decided to meet again in Riyadh in November.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported that an Iraqi MiG was shot down on 25 May 40 km west of Sanandaj. An armed forces communique, carried by the radio, reported minor clashes in the southern and western regions. An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, transmitted by INA, claimed that a successful Iraqi operation had been carried out in the Dezful region and detailed minor Iranian losses in the Nowsud, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Shush regions.

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GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL ISSUES FINAL STATEMENT

GF261500 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1342 GMT 26 May 81

[Text of final statement issued after first meeting of Supreme Council of Gulf Cooperation Council, on 26 May 1981 in Abu Dhabi read by Cooperation Council Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah--live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Final statement of the first meeting of the Supreme Council of the Cooperation Council of the Arab Gulf countries:

In response to the invitation of his highness the president of the UAE and with the help of God, a meeting was held in Abu Dhabi 21-22 Rajab 1401 Hegira, corresponding to 25-26 May 1981, of their majesties and their highnesses Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE; Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain; King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar; and Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait.

Out of the fraternal spirit that exists among these countries and their peoples; in completion of the efforts begun by their leaders to lay down a model formula that includes their countries and enables these countries to cooperate and coordinate among themselves; out of their belief in the importance of cooperation among these countries; in response to their peoples' expectations and aspirations for increased cooperation and efforts to achieve a better future; and in accordance with the results of the meetings of their foreign ministers in Riyadh on 4 February 1981 and in Muscat on 9 March 1981:

Their majesties and highnesses agreed to establish a council of their countries to be called the Cooperation Council of the Arab Gulf States [Majlis at-Ta'awun li Duwal al-Khalij al-'Arabiyah]. They signed the statutes of the council, which are aimed at developing cooperation among these states enhancing their relations; achieving coordination; integration and closer links; deepening and strengthening the ties and relations that exist among their peoples in various fields; implementing joint projects and drawing up similar system in economic, cultural, information, social and legislative fields in order to serve their interests and strengthen their ability to hold on to their beliefs and values.

Their majesties and highnesses also decided to appoint 'Abdallah Bisharah secretary general of the Cooperation Council. Riyadh, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, shall be the council's permanent headquarters.

Out of their realization of the inevitability of economic integration among their countries and a social merger among their peoples, they believe that the current circumstances of their states and the similar issues and problems they face, in addition to their similar economic and social systems, make it necessary to lay down the bases for and establish the institutions and apparatus that will make this economic integration and social merger a living reality.

In order to achieve these goals, in accordance with Article 4 of the council's statutes, they decided to set up specialized committees as outlined in detail in the enclosed working paper approved by the supreme council.

Their majesties and highnesses reviewed the current situation in the area. They reaffirm that the region's security and stability are the responsibility of its peoples and countries and that this council expresses the will of these countries and their right to defend their security and independence. They also affirm their absolute rejection of foreign interference in the region from any source. They call for keeping the entire region free of international conflicts, particularly the presence of military fleets and foreign bases, in order to safeguard their interests and the interests of the world.

They declare that guaranteeing stability in the Gulf is linked to the achievement of peace in the Middle East, and this underlines the need to achieve a just solution for the Palestinian question--a solution that safeguards the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their rights to repatriation and the establishment of an independent state, and ensures Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, the foremost of which is Jerusalem.

Their majesties and highnesses discussed the serious situation arising from the escalation of Zionist aggression against the Arab nation. They discussed in a spirit of national responsibility Israel's persistence in violating fraternal Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and the savage bombardment of Lebanese cities and towns and Palestinian refugee camps, its war of extermination launched against the Palestinians, its aggression against the Arab Deterrent Forces and its threats to fraternal Syria. They affirm their full support and backing for Syria. They appeal to all parties in Lebanon to discard their differences, put an end to the bloodshed in Lebanon and embark on reconciliation talks within the framework of Lebanese legitimacy.

Their majesties and highnesses support the efforts being made to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, since it is one of the problems that threaten the region's security and increases the possibility of foreign intervention in the region. They stress the need to redouble efforts to find a final settlement to the dispute.

Their majesties and highnesses also reaffirm their commitment to the Arab League Charter and the resolutions of Arab summit conferences. They reiterate their support for the Islamic Conference Organization and their commitment to its resolutions. They express their adherence to the principles of nonalignment and to the UN Charter.

In response to the invitation of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, it was decided to hold the second meeting in Riyadh in Muharram, 1402 Hegira, corresponding to the first half of November 1981.

Issued in Abu Dhabi 22 Rajab, 1401 Hegira, 26 May 1981.

VOP SAYS HABIB MISSION TO END WITH ISRAELI ATTACK

JN261825 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1555 GMT 26 May 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] In an article transmitted from Paris, the Soviet news agency APN has affirmed that an Israeli aggression against Lebanon and Syria will take place in the wake of U.S. envoy Philip Habib's departure from the region and that the aggression will have U.S. consent. APN added that the U.S. Government leaders certainly agree that Israel must launch an aggression against Lebanon and Syria and that the beginning of this aggression will coincide with the end of Habib's mission.

To corroborate the APN article, two indications emanated yesterday from Washington. The first indication came in Reagan's first statement on the current developments in the region. He said that Israel is a first-rate strategic asset for the United States and that it is an allied state whose military forces constitute a deterrent in the fact of what he called Soviet aggression in the Middle East. This Reagan statement has been regarded by observers as a green light for Israel to launch its aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution and Syria.

The second indication came in a statement by Larry Speakes, deputy White House press secretary, in which he said that the U.S. President is awaiting more information to decide on the next stage of Philip Habib's Middle East mission. Speakes added: We have no program after today for Habib's mission, but we are waiting for more information to make the decision which will determine whether Habib will resume his mission tasks or not. While waiting for the U.S. decision on Habib's mission, we find it certain that the first stage of his rounds, which ended in Tel Aviv where he started, has failed as a result of his insistence on carrying the Israeli terms with him to Damascus, Beirut and Riyadh.

Thus, it seems certain that Habib was not waiting for an answer from Riyadh with regard to his mission, but rather for a certain decision from the U.S. administration. The decision will either limit his mission, which will mean one thing--namely, freezing any Israeli military action until the right moment--or end his mission, under the pretext of recalling him for consultations. This recall means the beginning of the Israeli military operation.

The failure of Habib's mission was not due to the Arabs' desire for war but to his insistence on dealing with the current situation in the region through the Israeli demands, and on confining his mission to working for the evacuation of the Syrian missiles from Al-Biqa' and the Arab Deterrent Forces from the Sannin and Zahlah hills. The U.S. official spokesman's statement means the declaration of war, especially following Reagan's threat to recall his envoy from the region, which means war. This is not the first time that we have heard such a threat. This threat accompanied the U.S. envoy throughout his tour. He was holding it in his other hand. He was endeavoring to regain control of Sannin instead of having a war. During his tours in the region, U.S. aircraft carriers were approaching the Lebanese coast. What has been said by Reagan and the official spokesman make clear one thing; namely, that there is no way out at present except confrontation. The only alternative is to capitulate.

In the face of these two alternatives, we move to the second issue. An Arab determination to confront any Zionist aggression will outstep the U.S. alternatives and impose other alternatives. The base of Arab determination is the readiness of the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and Syria to face the coming developments. We must stress an unchangeable fact; namely, that the Palestinian revolution naturally has no alternative to fighting, especially since it is always present in the arena of daily struggle with the Zionist enemy. It has never stopped confronting the enemy for one day. The Lebanese National Movement also exists in the trench of confrontation in solidarity with the Palestinian resistance. The movement has also declared general mobilization among the Lebanese masses as a sign of determination and readiness to continue its battle with the Zionist enemy on the borders and with its agents in Lebanon, who have rejected all formulas for detente and insisted on making an unholy alliance with the Zionist enemy.

For its part, Syria, through its foreign minister, Khaddam, has reiterated that its stand is firm and strong and that it will continue to reject any pressures or threats and will prepare to confront any aggression at any time. Only a few hours passed after Khaddam's statement before Syrian forces shot down the seventh Israeli reconnaisance plane. This was a clear answer to Begin's blackmail, response to Begin's terms as carried by Habib and reaction to his mission, which has been suspended and put on the waiting list.

The channels of Arab resistance have taken their courses to the battle trenches. These channels are supported by the Arab foreign ministers' resolution and by the stands taken by friendly states, headed by the Soviet Union, which, through President Brezhnev himself, has affirmed that it cannot take an indifferent attitude vis-a-vis the genocide being committed against the Palestinian people in Lebanon and that it cannot remain silent on the Israeli interference in Lebanon's affairs.

STEADFASTNESS STATES AMBASSADORS MEET IN BULGARIA

JN261723 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] The ambassadors of the member-states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front met in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, head of the Egyptian National Front.

The meeting was held at the invitation of the PLO representative in the Bulgarian capital.

The explosive situation in Lebanon, particularly in the south, was discussed in light of the Zionist threats, which are backed by U.S. imperialism.

The conferees stressed the need for adopting a unified Arab stand in order to bolster the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese National Movement and Syrian steadfastness in the face of the Zionist challenges.

The conferees also denounced the Egyptian ruler's visit to Sudan, which has exposed the last masks behind which Numayri's regime was hiding.

'ARAFAT HOLDS TALKS WITH CEAUSESCU IN ROMANIA

NC251350 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1245 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met this morning with Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by PLO official spokesman Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar. They discussed the Middle East developments in general, and Lebanon in particular, in the wake of the Zionist threats against the Palestinian revolution, Syria and Lebanon.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Romania last night at the official invitation of the Romanian president. He was met at the airport by the Romanian foreign minister and senior party and state officials as well as members of the PLO office in Romania.

'ARAFAT BRIEFS FATAH COMMITTEE ON HIS VISITS

NC270819 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 May 81

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee held a 5-hour meeting yesterday in the presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. During the meeting the committee discussed the latest developments in the current situation in light of the continuing Israeli escalation.

Brother Abu 'Ammar briefed the central committee on the results of the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers in Tunis last week. At that conference, the ministers stressed that the Palestinian issue is the first Arab question as well as the need to support the PLO with every means in order to enable the PLO to assume its responsibilities and to confront the war of extermination launched by the Zionist enemy against it and the Palestinian people. The ministers also stressed that the Arab countries stand by the PLO in the confrontation with the Israeli aggressions.

The commander in chief also briefed the central committee on the results of his visits to Libya and Romania, as well as the results of the visits to certain Arab countries by a number of Fatah Central Committee members. The central committee assessed the important results of the meeting between Brother Abu 'Ammar and Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The committee adopted important decisions at the diplomatic and political levels to confront developments in the international arena.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE'S 26 MAY PRESS RELEASE

LD262148 Vienna OPECNA in English 1946 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Geneva, 26 May (OPECNA)--At the conclusion of the 60th ordinary ministerial conference meeting the following press release was issued:

The 60th meeting of the conference of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 25th to 26th May, 1981. His Excellency Dr. Subroto, minister of mines and energy of Indonesia and president of the 59th meeting of the conference, formally opened the conference by expressing, on behalf of their excellencies the heads of delegation and all delegates, the profound grief and shock felt on the sad occasion of the tragic death of His Excellency Dr. Jaime Roldos Aquilera, president of Ecuador, his wife, and a number of high ranking officers of his cabinet.

The conference unanimously re-elected as its president His Excellency Dr. Subroto. His Excellency Mallam Yahaya Dikko, presidential adviser on petroleum and energy affairs of Nigeria and head of its delegation was unanimously elected alternate president.

The conference decided to entrust the long-term strategy committee, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Ahmed Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of Saudi Arabia, with the further review of OPEC's long-term strategy and to present a report to the conference as soon as possible.

The conference reviewed the current market situation and in the light of the prevailing circumstances decided to maintain the deemed marker crude price at a ceiling of 36 U.S. dollars per barrel with a maximum OPEC crude price of 41 U.S. dollars per barrel until the end of the year. The majority of the member countries decided to cut production by a minimum of 10 percent effective 1st June, 1981.

The conference appointed his excellency Dr. Marc Saturnin Nan Nguema of Gabon as secretary general of the organization for a period of two years as from 1st July, 1981. The conference expressed its sincere thanks for and appreciation of the excellent services rendered to the organization by His Excellency Rene G. Ortiz, the outgoing secretary general, during his term of office.

The conference extended the term of office of Dr Fadhil J. al-Chalabi as deputy secretary general for a period of three years from 7th October, 1981 and expressed its appreciation of the excellent services rendered by him.

The conference expressed its sincere gratitude to the Federal Government of Switzerland and the republic and Canton of Geneva for their warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

The conference passed resolutions which will be published on 26th June, 1981 after ratification by member countries.

The next ordinary meeting of the conference will be convened in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 10th December, 1981.

GHALI SAYS SINAI FORCE SYMBOLIC, NOT MILITARY

NC270835 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 27 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has emphasized that the mission of the new international peacekeeping force in Sinai will be governed by the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and guaranteed by the United States. In view of the fact that it is limited within the framework of the peace treaty, the force will not be used for any purpose outside this clearly defined framework.

He stressed that the force will not include combat forces and could not, for example, form a part of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force or achieve any military or strategic goals.

In an interview published in AL-AHRAM today, Dr Ghali said that the multinational force will have a provisional mission, which will end as soon as the UN peacekeeping forces are established. Egypt resorted to this new collective action only after the United Nations failed in officially shouldering its responsibilities.

Dr Butrus Ghali noted that Egypt resorted without hesitation to negotiating the establishment of a multiparty international force after the United Nations failed to provide Egypt with a peacekeeping force because of the new dimensions of the cold war, the threat of the Soviet veto and the convulsive stands of the Arab rejectionist states regarding the UN Emergency Forces.

Ghali affirmed that Egypt has always been a new source for initiatives in international politics and that the UN Emergency Forces stemmed from the experience of the tripartite aggression on Egypt in 1956.

Dr Ghali outlined that the formation of the force, which was being negotiated and which establishes a new precedent in international relations, is characterized by the fact that it is international; namely, that it includes units belonging to several states in various geographical areas. The force will be subject to the principles and objectives of the United Nations, will be symbolic and its arms, strength and mission will be limited.

SUNA INTERVIEWS 'ALI ON AS-SADAT VISIT, BOYCOTT

JN261837 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 26 May (SUNA)--Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has called on all Arab states to take a consolidated position and to focus on the Palestinian cause.

'Ali, who doubles as foreign minister, told SUNA that Egypt would not give up its U.S. sponsored talks with Israel. Egypt will continue negotiation with Israel and U.S. with the aim of approaching an autonomy rule for the Palestinians, 'Ali said.

The Egyptian foreign minister was interviewed by SUNA during his one day stay in which he accompanied President as-Sadat to attend the country's celebration of the 12th anniversary of May revolution.

He said Israel has fulfilled the first part of Camp David accord concerning Sinai but it has hindered the implementation of the second part of the accord.

'Ali mentioned in this context that Arab rejection and some Arab countries practices have encouraged Israel to put obstruction on the process of the implementation of the accord. He said much would have been accomplished if all Arab states had taken a unified position with Egypt.

He told SUNA that Egypt had asked the European Economic Community, EEC, members to continue with their initiative that aimed at maintaining a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Responding to a question on the Soviet call for an international conference on Palestine, 'Ali described the call as unplain but said Egypt would accept initially such a conference if it could create a new solution.

In the exclusive interview with SUNA, the Egyptian minister said that during the thirty-six years he spent in the armed forces he had never witnessed any Arab military weight backing Egypt in its four wars, except the Sudanese people.

Egypt has sacrificed one thousand martyrs and paid 100 billion dollars from its money during the past thirty years for the sake of the Palestinian cause, 'Ali said. He added that, despite this, the Arab states boycotted Egypt and suspended its membership in the Arab League and its affiliated regional organizations.

The Egyptian minister commended the recent visit by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to Sudan as an important step towards Arab solidarity.

The visit came after a term of differences in opinion and thus it was of a high importance for it corrected the process of diplomatic relations between the two countries, 'Ali said, indicating that no changes have ever occurred in the relations' progress between the people of the two countries.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali indicated that the integration between Sudan and Egypt was more influenced by economic than by political events.

'Ali said Sudan and Egypt were affected by hard economic obstacles resulting from Arab states' boycott of Egypt.

'Ali said the execution of some integration projects has already began and that Egypt [words indistinct] this concern to be examined with Sudanese officials.

Comments on Oil, Israel

JN261846 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 26 May (SUNA)--In statements he made today, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has denied that Egypt has any commitment to supply Israel with oil from the Sinai wells. He said that Egyptian oil will be sold by public auction to companies and not to states and that the Egyptian oil Israel will obtain will be through this public auction.

On the effect of what is taking place in Chad on Egypt and Sudan, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: What is taking place there upsets the two peoples' stability and security. He added that, during the past two years, Al-Qadhdhafi has succeeded in legalizing his presence in Chad. More than that, he even found some African countries to listen to him which have tried or are trying to invest the presence of his troops in Chad with legitimacy.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We cannot ignore Libya's expansionist policy and Egypt and Sudan must collaborate to prevent the intervention by any African country in the affairs of another African country. This subject will be submitted to the next African summit conference.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali also called for the formation of an Arab emergency force to replace the Syrian forces in order to prevent Israel from intervening in Lebanon. He said that the fact that Syria had been left alone in the Lebanese arena had made the Syrian forces appear to be the basic party to the dispute in Lebanon. This is a mistake committed by the Arabs.

TRIPARTITE SINAI FORCE MEETINGS HELD 26 MAY

NC262036 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 26 May(MENA)--The Egyptian, U.S. and Israeli delegations resumed their meetings in MENA House this evening to continue the discussion on the formation of a multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai after Israel's withdrawal on 25 April 1982.

Leader of the Egyptian delegation Dr Usamah al-Baz made a speech welcoming the U.S. and Israeli delegations. He hoped that success in implementing mutual security measures between Egypt and Israel would be a positive addition to the peace issue not only between Egypt and Israel but also to the overall peace among the states in the region.

He also expressed his hope that the near future would witness new dimensions of the peace and cooperation relations to such an extent that the region's states would not be in need of reciprocal security measures.

Dr al-Baz said that the formation of the multinational force aims at strengthening the mutual feeling of security and would also come in implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and its supplements. Therefore, we are not working from a void but in keeping with provisions that have been already agreed upon.

Dr al-Baz emphasized that the basic unquestionable fact is that Egyptian sovereignty over all of Sinai cannot be encroached upon and that the presence of the force on parts of Sinai does not in any way undermine Egypt's sovereignty over its territory nor does it mean changing the legal status of any part.

Dr al-Baz said further: We are not in the process of laying down a regional arrangement but of implementing the peace treaty in connection with the mutual security arrangements which do not ascribe a specific legal status to any part of Egypt. The area where the force will operate will remain an indivisible part of Egypt under the sovereignty of the Egyptian people and government, exactly as it is in the case of any other part of Egypt.

Al-Baz added: When pointing to the importance of the discussion on the formation of the force to complete the implementation of the peace treaty and of the total Israeli withdrawal to beyond Egypt's international border in April 1982, it is also pointed that Egypt and Israel have, with the help of the United States, previously reached solutions to much more important questions since the historic visit of President as-Sadat to Jerusalem and until now. His excellency pointed out that what has actually been achieved along the path of peace and normalization is considered by all criteria as a magnificent accomplishment which could serve as an example for the establishment of comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbors and for settling the Palestinian question.

The tripartite evening session on the formation of the multinational force lasted about 4 hours, at the end of which it was decided to resume the discussions at 1000 tomorrow and form a joint military and legal committee to discuss some military and legal points pertaining to the force.

MENA has learned that the Egyptian side stressed during today's discussions the need for respect by the peacekeeping force of the Egyptian sovereignty over every inch of Sinai, that the immunity which will be given to the multinational force will be similar to that given to the UN Emergency Force and that the mission of the multinational force will be confined to the implementation of the peace treaty's provisions.

MINISTRY DENOUNCES ATTACK ON BEIRUT EMBASSY

NC251319 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] Lebanese police have reported that the Egyptian, Sudanese and U.S. Embassies in Beirut were subjected to an armed attack by unidentified gunmen after midnight last night.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has issued a statement condemning this attack, in which the official in charge of Egyptian interests in Lebanon was wounded. The ministry said that this attack illustrates irresponsible behavior on the part of the Arab seditious and rejectionist elements to undermine the Egyptian diplomatic presence in Lebanon, in addition to the fact that it violates the rules of international law on the sanctity and immunity of diplomatic missions.

The Foreign Ministry affirmed that Egypt will not retreat one step from its principled stand and that it will pursue the course of peace and will continue to make efforts to stop the attempts at intervention and creating divisions among the fraternal Lebanese people.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 22-26 MAY

Communique No 344

JN221656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA)--During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces killed 267 Iranian soldiers and destroyed 1 infantry position, 1 tank, 2 guns, 7 vehicles, 1 observation post, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 1 helicopter. In its Communique No 344, the Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi forces have destroyed an enemy attempt to attack our forward positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment on him. The communique said that the Iraqi forces continued to deal blows to and destroy enemy remnants in the Shush area, killing 194. It added that the Iraqi forces lost 14 martyrs, 1 tank and 3 troop carriers. The text of the communique follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continued to strike at and destroy the enemy in their operational sectors. The outcome of their activities yesterday evening and today is as follows:

1. Known enemy losses:

A. Using their various weapons, our armed forces pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Nowsud area, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 14 dead. The bodies of the dead are still on the battlefield. Our forces destroyed one vehicle in the same area. Our forces pounded a concentration of the charlatan Khomeyni's guards in the area, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 18 dead.
B. Four were killed and two vehicles were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
C. One was killed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
D. Two were killed opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. Our units pounded enemy troop concentrations and positions in the Dezful area, killing 15 and destroying 2 vehicles--one of which was loaded with hardware--1 observation post and 1 stockpile of hardware.
F. Our valiant and capable forces continued to destroy enemy remnants in the Shush area, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment. These losses were counted at 194 dead and 1 gun and 1 vehicle.
G. Our brave forces defeated an enemy attempt to attack our forward positions in the Khafajiyah area, inflicting grave losses in life and equipment.
H. One stockpile of hardware was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
I. Our units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan area, killing 19 and destroying 1 infantry position, 1 tank, 1 gun, 1 vehicle and 3 stockpiles of hardware.
J. An enemy helicopter was downed in the southern sector of the battlefield.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 267 dead and 1 infantry position, 1 tank, 2 guns, 7 vehicles, 1 observation post, 5 stockpiles of hardware and 1 helicopter.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank and three troop carriers were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 May 1981

Communique No 345

JN231702 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)--Iraqi fighter planes today downed two Persian enemy helicopters in the (At-Tahiri) region south of Ahvaz city. A communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi forces inflicted on the Persian enemy last night and today 381 dead and various other military losses. The text of the Communique No 345 follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With valor and capability, the soldiers of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah continued to strike the forces of the conceited and ignorant Persians in the operational sectors last night and today. The results are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One was killed opposite our positions in the Nowsud region.
B. A force belonging to our forward units raided enemy positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region and hit them with all weapons, killing 23 and destroying 1 armored personnel carrier, 3 field guns and 1 vehicle. Our units also hit enemy troops and positions in the same region, killing seven and destroying three infantry positions.
C. Five were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
D. Nine were killed and one field gun, one observation post and one ammunition stockpile were destroyed in the Mimak region opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. Our units hit with various weapons an enemy troop concentration in the Mehran region and forced the enemy to flee, leaving behind 17 dead.
F. Nine were killed and one tank, one vehicle laden with ammunition and one ammunition stockpile were destroyed in the Dezful region.
G. Our forward units clashed with an enemy infantry force in the Shush region, hit it hard with all weapons and forced it to retreat after having sustained 166 dead.
H. Two tanks and four armored personnel carriers were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. The enemy losses in the 21 May [as received] 1981 battle in the same region were 139 killed and 4 tanks destroyed.
I. Five were killed and one vehicle laden with ammunition and two excavators were destroyed in the Abadan region.
J. This morning our fighter planes downed two enemy helicopters in the (At-Tahiri) region south of Ahvaz city.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 381 dead, 3 infantry positions, 7 tanks, 5 armored personnel carriers, 4 field guns, 3 vehicles, 2 excavators, 1 observation post, 2 ammunition stockpiles and 2 helicopters.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 46 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two tanks, one personnel carrier, two vehicles, three mortars and two field guns were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 May 1981

Communique No 346

JN241725 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May (INA)--The Iraqi Armed Forces have killed 220 Iranians and destroyed 8 tanks and 6 infantry positions. Communique No 346 issued tonight by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi Armed Forces also destroyed three armored troop carriers, seven guns of various calibers, nine vehicles, four rocket launchers, three excavators, three observation posts and five stockpiles of hardware. The text of the communique is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With zeal and high moral, our valiant armed forces continued to strike at the Magian, racist Persian enemy forces in their operational sectors. The results of their activities last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Iranian zone opposite Panjwin. Our units pounded the concentration, forcing it to flee after sustaining 17 dead and 1 tank destroyed.
B. Yesterday, one of forward units clashed with an enemy infantry force in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 96 dead. Our units also destroyed oen infantry position and one observation post in the same area.
C. Four were killed and four infantry positions and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
D. Four were killed and one gun was destroyed in the Dezful area.
E. One of our forward units attacked an enemy infantry force in the Shush area, forcing it to retreat leaving behind 29 dead. Using their various weapons, our forces attacked enemy positions in the same area, killing 52 and destroying 1 infantry position, 1 tank, 1 armored troop carrier, 4 guns, 5 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher and 1 stockpile of hardware.
F. Using their various weapons, our units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, killing eight and destroying five tanks, one armored troop carrier, three vehicles, three rocket launchers, one excavator and one stockpile of hardware.
G. One gun was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
H. Ten were killed and 1 tank, 1 armored troop carrier, 1 gun, 1 vehicle, 2 excavators and 2 stockpiles of hardware here destroyed in Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 220 dead and 6 infantry positions, 8 tanks, 3 armored troops carriers, 7 guns of various calibers, 9 vehicles, 4 rocket launchers, 3 excavators and 5 stockpiles of hardware.

II. It has been ascertained that the enemy losses in the Iranian zone opposite Panjwin as a result of our armed forces' activities on 15, 16 and 17 May 1981 were: 12 dead and 1 gun and 1 vehicle were destroyed.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 22 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank, one troop carrier, two vehicles and two mortars were damaged.

IV. The following losses were sustained as a result of the battle that raged on 21 May 1981:

A. Known enemy losses: 486 dead in addition to the number disclosed at that time.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 25 martyrs.
2. In equipment: Seven tanks, 31 troop carriers, 7 vehicles and 2 guns were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 May 1981

Communique No 347

JN251750 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 25 May (INA)--The Iraqi Armed Forces continued to inflict grave losses in life and equipment on the Persian enemy. Communique No 347 issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command said that the Iraqi forces shot down 2 helicopters, killed 407 Iranians and destroyed 4 infantry positions, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 4 observation posts. The enemy sustained other losses. The communique added that the Iraqi forces fiercly pounded enemy concentrations in the Shush area, inflicting grave losses on him. The text of Communique No 347 is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With high capability, our valiant armed forces pounded the Persian racist and ignorant forces in their operations sectors. The results of their activities last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One infantry position and one vehicle were destroyed opposite our positions in the Nowsud area.
B. One of our forward units raided enemy positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, killing 47 and destroying 1 stockpile of hardware.
C. Using their various weapons, our armed forces pounded enemy troop concentrations in the Gilan-e Gharb area, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 33 dead and 1 infantry position, 1 vehicle and 1 observation post destroyed.
D. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy infantry force in the Mehran area, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 29 dead and 1 infantry position and 1 vehicle destroyed.
E. Our units pounded an enemy concentration in the Dezful area, forcing it to retreat after killing 18 and destroying 1 observation post.
F. Using their various weapons, our units violently pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Shush area, killing 231 and destroying 2 troop carriers, 2 armored cars, 1 vehicle, 2 excavators, 1 observation post and 1 stockpile of hardware.
G. One tank, one gun, one vehicle and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
H. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan area, killing 49 and destroying 1 infantry position, 2 vehicles, 1 observation post and 4 stockpiles of hardware.
I. Two enemy helicopters were shot down yesterday afternoon in the southern sector of the operations theater.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 407 dead and 4 infantry positions, 1 tank, 2 troop carriers, 2 armored cars, 1 gun, 7 vehicles, 2 excavators, 4 observation posts, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 2 helicopters.

II. It has been ascertained that the enemy losses on 22 May 1981 as a result of our units' activities, were well over 364 dead, in addition to what was disclosed at the time.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 25 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two tanks, 4 troop carriers, 10 vehicles, 2 mortars and 1 armored car were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 May 1981

Communique No 348

JN261706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA)--Iraqi helicopters today raided Iranian enemy concentrations in the Dezful region and inflicted direct hits on them before returning safely. Communique No 348, issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command, said that Persian enemy losses during the last 24 hours were 98 dead and 6 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 2 field guns, 9 vehicles, 1 TOW rocket launcher, 3 observation posts and 6 ammunition stockpiles destroyed. The text of Communique 348 issued by the Armed Forces General Command is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our victorious armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today. The results are as follows:

I. Know enemy losses:

A. Our units hit an enemy concentration in the Nowsud region and forced it to retreat after killing 17 and destroying 1 field gun and 1 vehicle. Our units also destroyed one ammunition stockpile in the same region.
B. A force belonging to our forward units raided the enemy positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region and hit it with all weapons, killing 14 and destroying 6 infantry positions.
C. One was killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
D. Eight were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Mimak region opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. Two tanks were destroyed in the Dezful region. Today, our helicopters raided enemy concentrations in the same region destroying two tanks, one armored personnel carrier and three vehicles, in addition to scoring direct hits on an enemy troop concentration, before returning safely to base.
F. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy force in the Shush region and forced it to retreat after killing 21 and destroying 1 armored personnel carrier and 1 TOW rocket launcher. Our units also hit with various weapons enemy troop concentrations in the same region, killing 28 and destroying 2 armored personnel carriers, 2 vehicles, 2 excavators, 1 observation post and 1 ammunition stockpile.
G. One vehicle was destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
H. Three ammunition stockpiles were destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
I. Nine were killed and one field gun, one vehicle, two observation posts and one ammunition stockpile were destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 98 dead and 6 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 2 field guns, 9 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher, 2 excavators, 3 observation posts and 6 ammunition stockpiles destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel : 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Three vehicles, three mortars and one armored vehicle were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 May 1981

AD-DUSTUR PRAISES KING HUSAYN'S MOSCOW SPEECH

JN270745 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 May 81

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper AD-DUSTUR comments on the speech delivered by His Majesty King Husayn at the dinner hosted by Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in which he asserted that the Palestinian issue is the central issue and the yardstick with which the Arabs assess the stands of states and nations toward the Arab nation.

Under the headline "Husayn Defines the Landmarks of the Road to Peace," AD-DUSTUR says: In total clarity and frankness and on behalf of the Arab nation, His Majesty King Husayn addressed his Soviet hosts and the entire world, asserting that the Palestinian issue is the central issue and the yardstick with which the Arabs assess the stands of states and nations toward the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular.

In the speech at the dinner hosted in his honor by Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, his majesty said: The Israeli occupation and the continued Zionist aggression is the main obstacle to the establishment of a just and complete peace in the region. The Arabs have offered everything they can and responded to the international will and the UN resolutions to end the Palestinian people's tragedy and to put an end to the expansionist Israeli aggression.

The speeches exchanged between Husayn and Brezhnev and the progress of the talks, which included the Middle East, world issues, international detente and bilateral relations, cleraly indicate that there is an identity of viewpoints regarding the need to expedite a just and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East crisis and to establish peace, security and stability in this strategic region.

In his speech, King Husayn proclaimed Jordan's welcome for Brezhnev's call for an international conference on the Middle East in which the PLO will participate on par with the other sides. He praised the principled Soviet stand which champions the Arab nation and the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their rights. However, he pointed out that in its capacity as a big power, the Soviet Union can contribute more effectively to the expeditious establishment of peace in the region, to putting an end to the Israeli aggressions against Lebanon's people and sovereignty and to ending the Palestinian people's tragedy, which has been prolonged due to the international community's shirking of its responsibility toward it.

Husayn was also frank and clear when he asserted the independence of the Arab nation and its rejection of all forms of foreign intervention. He stressed that the Arab nation alone is responsible for safeguarding its security, sovereignty and independence. Jordan's support for the right of the Gulf states to reject any tutelage or protection from any quarter and to assume the defense of their security and stability stems from this premise.

AD-DUSTUR adds: Husayn explained that Jordan's full support for the Iraqi people in their legitimate struggle to repulse the Iranian aggression stems from Jordan's commitment to championing Arab rights anywhere and to the Arab nation's common destiny.

Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev praised Jordan's stand and unwavering policy. He said that the political weight of any state is not measured by area and population but by the political line which it follows in its international affairs and in its contribution to the quest for peace. Brezhnev reiterated his call for all states to contribute to peace, asserting that the grave situation in Lebanon is telling the world that it is high time to work for a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Thus, it is clear that Husayn's visit to Moscow and his talks with the Soviet leaders will give a strong impetus to the efforts of all peace-loving nations to remove the specter of war from the region, put an end to Zionist aggressiveness and achieve a just and comprehensive settlement that will restore security and stability in this region and fortify the edifice of peace for the good of the entire world.

PAPER URGES CONSTRUCTIVE SOVIET ROLE IN MIDEAST

JN270753 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 May 81 p 4

[Editorial: "A Time Will Come"]

[Text] The visit to the Soviet Union this week by His Majesty King Husayn comes at a time when the role of the Soviets in Middle Eastern affairs is at an important turning point. Which way it is turning, however, depends on how you view the situation. The view from Washington is that the Russians are planning to establish themselves in the area even if they have to come in on a tank, as they moved into Afghanistan. The view from most Arab capitals is that the Soviets are a necessary partner in any effort at a permanent and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that they must be dealt with on an equal basis with the United States--as a superpower with its own itnerests in the region. The visit of King Husayn to Moscow is as good a symbol as we are apt to have of how Arab states can deal rationally with both superpowers without falling deep into the arms of either. The time is obviously not ripe for the Soviets to come barging into the Mideast peace-making picture--because there is no real peace-making taking place, and because the American-Israeli ranting and raving about anti-communism is too high-pitched at the moment. But the time will come--and the sooner it comes the better--when the Soviet Union will have to step into the picture on an equal basis with the United States, to participate in coaxing all parties towards the negotiating table. The point that has to be emphasized today is that accepting a constructive Soviet role in the area does not mean adhering to Soviet ideological principles. To prevent the former by harping on the latter is immature statesmanship of the first order.

SOVIET TIES AFFIRMED IN MOSCOW CELEBRATIONS

JN261326 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Moscow--The Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society celebrated Jordanian Independence and Army Day in Moscow last night. The celebration was attended by several senior Soviet officials, employees of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, newsmen and representatives of various sectors of the population.

The first deputy prime minister of the USSR made a speech in which he praised the ties of friendship between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the USSR. He expressed the Soviet people's and government's welcome of the visit of His Majesty King Husayn to Moscow, which, he said, will strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries.

Jordanian Ambassador in Moscow Dr Hani al-Khasawinah also made a speech. He expressed Jordan's appreciation to the USSR for joining the Jordanians in their celebrations.

The Jordanian ambassador also spoke on Moscow television. He explained the significance of these celebrations and praised the ties of friendship and cooperation between the Arab nation and the USSR.

SOVIET ARTICLES REVIEW RELATIONS, MARK ANNIVERSARY

For an article by A. Timoshkin, published in Amman AR-RA'Y on 24 May, dealing with the continuing development of Jordanian-Soviet re ations since the 1976 joint communique, and an article by V. Ilyushin, published in Amman AD-DUSTUR on 24 May, pegged to the 35th anniversary of Jordan's independence--both of which were disseminated by the Soviet news agency APN--see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 27 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 26 MAY

NC261930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1808 GMT 26 May 81

[Press conference by Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus on his return to Beirut from Paris on 26 May--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Minister, what is the likelihood that the Tunis conference resolutions will be implemented, knowing that we suffer from many resolutions and little implementation?

[Answer] It is difficult for me to give a precise answer to this question, because I do not have the power of implementation. The power of implementation is in the hands of many sides and states, as you know. But what I can say is that the atmosphere of the conference in Tunis calls for optimism regarding the possibility of implementation, because this atmosphere was clear and dominated by the spirit of responsibility and awareness as well as detachment from outbiddings and vituperations. This, in my view, is a sign that calls for optimism. I sincerely think that the cornerstone of the Tunis resolutions is for the Arab states to be able to end their disputes and abide in practice by the idea and spirit of solidarity which was mentioned in their resolutions. In as much as the Arab states unite in practice and keep away from contradictions and actions that are inconsistent with the spirit of solidarity and common aims, we can be optimistic that implementation is possible. I say this about all the resolutions, both those on the crisis in the area as a result of the Israeli threats and those on Lebanon.

[Question] Mr Minister, the conference called for the revival or activation of the Arab followup committee. If this committee is invited to meet, on what level will it meet? Will it meet at the level of ministers or ambassadors, and what will it discuss? Will it discuss the situation existing after 2 April, or will its field work be the implementation of the resolutions of the Arab summits and other conferences?

[Answer] The followup committee can meet at the ambassadorial or ministerial level. This is up to the president of the republic, who will decide this in the light of circumstances and the agenda. In my opinion, some meetings must be held at the level of ministers in the present circumstances in order to give momentum to the followup committee. In my opinion, the tasks and jurisdiction of the followup committee are extremely broad.

[Question] Mr Minister, some have blamed the Lebanese delegation for not raising the issue of the south in the conference, although the south is the essence of the Lebanese crisis.

[Answer] I am surprised at this charge, because if we go back to the speech which I delivered at the conference, we see that it contained more than one paragraph concerning the south. The Tunis conference was devoted to the issue of the south in particular. We mentioned the south in the speech and called on the Arabs to draw up a joint and comprehensive strategy. We said that the issue of the south was a test for the Arabs and the way to a solution to the Lebanese crisis. These remarks were literally contained in my speech. If the conference did not devote a paragraph to the south in particular, this is something else. The conference viewed the Lebanese issue as a whole, and what it said with regard to Lebanon applies equally to its north and south.

[Question] Mr Minister, today you met with the French foreign minister. Have you sensed that there is a new approach in the French policy? Is it true that President Mitterrand will send an envoy to Lebanon to have a firsthand look at the situation?

[Answer] The new French administration has not had enough time to take a specific stand on the area and Lebanon. But there is a firm desire for France to have a Middle Eastern policy that contributes to the solution of difficult problems and in favor of self-determination for the peoples. France must also have a Lebanese policy. This is what I clearly sensed in my meeting with my new French counterpart this morning. The French minister, Cheysson, informed me that French President Mitterrand wants to send a personal message to President Sarkis. When I arrived at the airport here, the French ambassador handed me a message from the French president to the president of the Lebanese Republic, which I will hand to his excellency when I see him.

[Question] Mr Minister, the Soviet news agency APN has predicted that Israel will launch an aggression or war against Syria and Lebanon after Philip Habib ends his mission and leaves the area. How correct is this prediction?

[Answer] What a state like the Soviet Union is able to know in view of its position in the world and contacts is beyond the capability available to a state like Lebanon. I cannot comment on this except by saying that I hope this prediction will not be correct.

[Question] Mr Minister, do you have any information on the latest results of the U.S. envoy's mission in the area?

[Answer] I have no particular information. I did not follow this subject closely in the past 24 hours.

[Question] A final question, Mr Minister. Syrian President al-Asad said in his latest statement that possibilities for both war and peace in the area exist. Mr Minister Butrus, which possibility do you support?

[Answer] I was asked this question when I left Lebanon for the Tunis conference. I said that just saying that the situation is swinging between war and peace involves some hope. I think that one must know the latest developments in the area with regard to Mr Habib's mission in order to give a somewhat precise judgement. I repeat that I have not been in touch with this matter in the past 24 hours. But I say that the prevailing opinion in foreign countries is that the chance of peace still exists.

VOL: SAM-9 MISSILES INSTALLED IN COASTAL AREAS

NC261851 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 May 81

[Excerpts] The security situation remains unchanged. Sporadic exchanges of gunfire continue along the traditional axes in the Capital and its suburb, particularly in At-Tayyunah area. At 1700 the clashes were renewed in the (As-Samarland-Sultan Ibrahim) perimeter in Al-Janah locality between party organizations, particularly between the Amal Movement and the Nasirite organization. It has been reported that five members of the deterrent forces have been wounded. Army positions in Al-Hadath came under Syrian-Palestinian sniper fire. Explosions continue to be heard in the Capital's axes.

After many efforts, the Syrians permitted two relief committee vehicles and one carrying gas cylinders to enter the city of Zahlah at 1820 today. When these vehicles arrived in Mar Ilyas quarter near the old government house, sniper fire began from Al-Hammar and Tallat al-Fahl. One of the relief committee's trucks was hit by incendiary bullets, setting its contents afire. The driver and a nun were slightly wounded.

A bomb was thrown at the shop of (Mahmud al-Khansah) in Al-Ghubayrah in the southern suburb. This was followed by another bomb thrown at the shop of (Hasan Ibrahim Qhaddar) in (Al-Ghaziyah), killing one official of the Amal Movement and wounding another. The situation became tense, and Amal set up barricades along the main road and its elements exchanged fire with the Palestine Liberation Army.

It has been learned from reliable sources that the UN Secretariat General has asked the nonregional officials of its offices in Beirut to leave Lebanon for Paris this week. It advised 14 of its envoys not to return to the area at present.

It has also been reiterated that SAM-9 missiles have been installed in a Lebanese coastal area. They have a 5-km range and some of them are in a base near Ad-Damur.

VOL CLAIMS LIBYANS TAKE UP POSITIONS IN BEIRUT

NC261543 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Armed Libyans with armored vehicles and truck-mounted rocket launchers were seen today taking up positions in the Az-Zaytunah and the Saint George building area [in Beirut].

PARLIAMENT SECURITY PLAN SUFFERS SETBACK

NC261321 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] There was an unexpected setback in the implementation of the plan for security measures around the Chamber of Deputies that was scheduled to go into effect today. Deterrent forces stationed in some buildings prevented the stationing of internal security forces in the museum, Al-Barbir and Qasr Amsur areas. This measure had been decided upon at security meetings preparatory to the resumption of the Chamber of Deputies' meetings next Thursday.

COMMENTARY SAYS 'AGGRESSION' WILL BE CONFRONTED

JN261442 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Yesterday, our air defense systems downed the sixth Israeli reconnaissance plane in a period of less than 2 weeks.

The downing of this plane and its like shows that Syria is just as capable of deterring and foiling aggression as it is determined to confront such aggression.

No doubt the strong and firm stand of Syria, its drawing power among the sons of the nation and the support it enjoys from international liberation elements are all a result of Syria's rejection of all forms of pressure and intimidation and its confrontation of and readiness to confront any aggression against it.

It seems that Syria's downing of the U.S.-made hostile reconnaissance plane from Syrian airspace over Syrian territory has aroused the anger of Washington's politicians although self-defense and the confrontation of aggression is a legitimate right recognized by all heavenly and human laws.

Yes, the downing of those planes aroused those politicians' anger, which compelled their leader Ronald Reagan to address a cable of solidarity for Israel to the Jewish extremists in New York. In this message, Reagan expressed his determination to offer all aid to the Zionist Israelis, considering these israelis' aggression against the Arab nation to be a first-rate strategic asset for the United States and that this aid would give impetus to U.S. strategic interests, as Reagan himself stated.

The U.S. President sent this message, which contained pledges to bolster aggression, at a time when his envoy Philip Habib was undertaking a mission which Washington's politicians describe as a peace mission.

In light of this, many grave questions are posed. Where do the contents of this message stand in relation to the real mission entrusted to the U.S. envoy? If the Reagan who sent the message is the same Reagan who dispatched the envoy, how can the two be reconciled? What is the real relation between the U.S. President's admission on achieving the U.S. strategic interests through the Israeli aggression and his claims about Habib's peaceful mission?

It is very clear to everyone that Israeli military belligerence was exacerbated with the arrival of the U.S. envoy in the region. In fact, the U.S.-made planes went even beyond Lebanese airspace and crossed Syrian airspace, from which our air defense downed two planes, the second of which was downed yesterday in Az-Zabadani area.

Although Syria understands the truth about the blatant contradiction between the U.S. allegations and stands, it can only understand the causes of such a contradiction by the traditional hostile stands of the U.S. policy on Arab issues and rights.

Thus, Syria does not distinguish between the actual grip of the aggression and the arm extended to it. This is because the actual form of such an aggression, which is embodied by Israel's policy, is only an organic part of the origin of the aggression, which is represented by the U.S. policy.

Syria will continue along its path of struggle. it will not heed the U.S. claims. Instead, it will act in accordance with objective truth and with president Hafiz al-Asad's statements that we shall firmly defend ourselves and confront every imperialist-Zionist aggression against our Arab nation. We shall not heed the tools of such an aggression, be these made in the U.S. or elsewhere.

KHADDAM RECEIVES PALESTINIAN LEADERS IN DAMASCUS

JN261628 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Salih Ra'fat, member of the front's politburo.

Earlier, Khaddam received Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the PLO Political Department, and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member and official spokesman.

TRADE EXCHANGE, OIL RELATIONS DISCUSSED IN MOSCOW

JN261232 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Moscow--Official talks began this morning between a Syrian delegation headed by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-Atrash and his delegation and a Soviet delegation headed by Grishin, deputy minister of foreign trade. The SANA correspondent has learned that a new economic agreement will be signed for trade exchange for the next 5 years between the two friendly countries. Dr al-Atrash arrived in Moscow last night.

In another development, Nadir an-Nabulsi, assistant oil minister, has said that oil relations between Syria and the Soviet Union are characterized by joint cooperation in drilling for oil in Syria. He added that his visit to the Soviet Union comes within this context.

HUNGARIAN TRADE UNION SUPPORTS CRISIS STAND

JN240629 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 May 81

[Text] Damascus--A delegation of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council [SZOT] has denounced the fabricated clamor raised by imperialism, Zionism, the isolationist Phalangist forces and the forces of agent Sa'd Haddad in Lebanon. The delegation said that Syria has every right to adopt the stand that will protect it against the Israeli aggression.

In the joint statement issued yesterday, which was signed by the SZOT delegation and the General Federation of Trade Unions delegation, the two sides denounced Israeli aggression against Lebanese territory. The two sides reiterated support for the Lebanese Nationalist Forces and the Palestinian revolution.

At the end of the statement, the two sides expressed satisfaction with the militant relations between the working classes and people in the two friendly countries of Hungary and Syria. They also reiterated support for all the peoples who are struggling against imperialism and the policy of racial discrimination.

The head of the Hungarian delegation highly appreciated Syria's principled stand under the leadership of Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general, against all conspiracies that are directed against Syria's steadfastness. He stressed that the working class in Hungary supports the just struggle that our country is waging.

BEGIN, U.S. ENVOY HABIB HOLD MEETING 27 MAY

TA271029 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1025 GMT 27 May 81

[From the Red Telephone program]

[Text] The meeting between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and special U.S. envoy Philip Habib ended a few minutes ago in Jerusalem. It lasted about 45 minutes. All Habib was prepared to say after the meeting was that the political effort continues. The meeting, held at the prime minister's office, was also attended by the foreign minister, the U.S. ambassador to Israel and other advisers. Reporters are now waiting for the prime minister to emerge. Among them is our political correspondent Gad Becker. The moment we have more details from Jerusalem, we will, naturally, inform you.

Habib to Return to U.S.

TA271107 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 May 81

[Excerpts] Special U.S. envoy Philip Habib will leave the region and return to Washington. At the same time, he announced that the diplomatic effort continues.

Coming out of his office in Jerusalem, the prime minister also said that one should not lose hope, that the diplomatic efforts would continue even though they have so far not borne any fruit.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that Habib reported to the prime minister about information he had obtained from Riyadh to the effect that the Saudis have so far not succeeded in convincing Syria to remove the missiles from the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon.

KNESSET SESSION ON COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIANS SOUGHT

TA261832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] The Knesset Alignment faction today requested that the speaker convene an urgent extraordinary session to discuss the commitments Israel is undertaking with regard to the Christians in Lebanon. The Alignment says those commitments were adopted without a Cabinet decision and without the sanction of the Knesset or the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, but merely by agreement of the prime minister. The Alignment claims the public learned of the commitment from the press and, in fact, the Christian leadership had been informed of the decision to use the IDF.

HA'ARETZ CRITICIZES BEGIN PROMISE TO AL-JUMAYYIL

TA261250 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 May 81 p 13

[Editorial: "Who Is Entitled to Commit Israel"]

[Text] After HA'ARETZ published an article on Sunday 24 May by its parliamentary correspondent Dan Margalit saying that the prime minister had given a letter to Pierre al-Jumayyil, the leader of the Phalangists in Lebanon, containing a promise that the Israeli Air Force would intervene on the side of his soldiers if they were attacked by units of the Syrian Air Force, the prime minister's office hurried to totally deny the report that same morning. Later the office corrected itself: A commitment had been given, but not in writing. Finally, the prime minister's office admitted that on 8 April 1981 the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs had decided to send the executive of the Lebanese Christians an announcement with a confirmation of a promise, given to them on 8 August 1978, that Israel would use its air force in the event of the Syrian Air Force attacking the Christians. Now there is no longer any doubt that this confirmation was given in the form of a written message.

In view of this set of official publications, we must first ask why the prime minister's office first tried to deny, and then to disclose half of the truth, and only in the end did it reveal the entire truth?

However, this is not the only question arising from this disclosure. The original promise was given to a Christian delegation by the prime minister and "in consultation with ministers who were present at the meeting with the delegation," of whom only Moshe Dayan, the former minister of defense, and the chief of staff are mentioned. From this it follows that the promise, in the giving of which, by the way, the then-defense minister, 'Ezer Weizman, was not a partner, was not given by the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, nor in any way on the basis of a decision made by the entire government. The confirmation from 1 and 1/2 months ago was given by the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs, but, again, not by the entire government; the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee only recently learned about the two commitments.

Anyone who promised that the IDF Air Force would intervene under certain conditions to defend the Christians in Lebanon, that is, against the Syrian Air Force, had to take into account that the Syrians would not refrain from any sort of action and anyone who approved the oral agreement by sending a written message put Israel under an obligation about which former Justice Minister Mr Hayim Tzadoq says, quite rightly, that it has the "elements of a military pact."

In the meantime we have become aware that the downing of the two Syrian helicopters on 28 April led to the positioning of the antiaircraft missile batteries by the Syrians on Lebanese soil; and it would be superfluous to expand today on the chain of events that followed. The U.S. President felt the need to send a special envoy to the area in order to prevent a deterioration into a military conflict between Syria and Israel and Anwar as-Sadat has now advised Mr Begin, in a letter, not to demand military action because any such action could, it is true, be a fine achievement for Israel from the military viewpoint, but would only be a temporary achievement, while in the long term it would be of no use.

A situation in which three people among themselves commit Israel to an action in the course of which we might find ourselves standing on the brink of war is insufferable in a democratic country. Those bearing the responsibility for making such a commitment on the basis of their own views are not entitled to demand a "national consensus."

U.S. SOURCE DENIES PLO PARTICIPATION IN TALKS

TA261210 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] An official U.S. source has talked to our correspondent Dan Eshel and denied the report that emanated from Lebanon alleging that the PLO's Abu Iyad participated in the meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and special U.S. envoy Philip Habib. The U.S. source said that there is no truth in that report.

SHARON OPTIMISTIC ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA270954 Jerusalem POST in English 27 May 81 p 3

[Staff report: "Sharon Says Egyptians Sincere About Peace"]

[Text] Minister of Agriculture Ari'el Sharon returned from Cairo full of optimism about the relations between Israel and Egypt. "My feeling after talking to leading Egyptian ministers and President Anwar as-Sadat is that they really mean what they say about the peace process."

Speaking at a press conference at Beit Sokolov in Tel Aviv yesterday, Sharon said his land tour of Egypt was very moving. He had travelled by rented car through Sinai to Cairo. Before returning, As-Sadat invited him to use the new underwater tunnel which crosses the Suez Canal north of the city of Suez. Sharon said he thinks he was the first Israeli, and perhaps one of the first civilians, to pass through the tunnel.

According to the joint communique issued at the end of Sharon's visit on Sunday [24 May], it was agreed that the two countries would cooperate on different projects in Egypt.

Sharon pointed out that the key word here is "cooperate." "We plan to help the Egyptians in their projects, but they will all be Egyptian projects. I want to tell you that, unlike what many people think here, the Egyptians have excellent farmers, and we can learn something from them."

CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE IN HEBRON UNHEEDED

TA262007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 May 81

[Excerpts] In Hebron, a call for a general strike to protest the settling of Jews in the Jewish quarter failed today. Here is a report from Hebron by our correspondent Gil Sadan.

[Begin videotape] [Sadan] The time was noon. According to the plan, the merchants should have been closing their shops. Nothing happened, however.

The truth, which they did not wish to confess in public, is that they were afraid. The military government explained to the merchants that it would not pay to strike. In a similar style, the acting mayor was made to understand that he should not convene a press conference. He met, therefore, with correspondents for talks, rather than for a press conference. He protested the settlement of Hebron's Jewish quarter and this was, in fact, the only expression of protest. [end videotape]

POLL INDICATES 19-PERCENT SUPPORT FOR DAYAN

TA261253 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1230 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Tel Aviv, 26 May--A public opinion poll conducted by the Institute for Applied social Studies shows that the Moshe Dayan-led Telem Movement has the potential of obtaining 19 percent of the eldctoral votes, as was the situation at the outset of the election campaign.

Unlike the polls that have thus far been published, this survey indicates that 19 percent of those polled in the three largest towns disclosed that they were inclined toward supporting Telem, or said they would definitely vote for it.

The conductors of the poll therefore reached the conclusion that other polls, giving Telem a lower level of support, did not give expression to that part of the public--15 percent--who said they are inclined to vote for Telem. Hence, the picture that canbe drawn based on the previous polls was misleading and did not at all reflect Telem's electoral potential.

FRG CITES REJECT JERUSALEM DAY INVITATION

TA262001 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] All the cities in West Germany which were invited by the World Zionist Organization to participate in ceremonies on Jerusalem Day have rejected these invitations due to the recent tension between the leaders of West Germany and Israel. This was reported today by Yohanan Manor, assistant director of the Zionist organization's information section.

ADB, EUROPEANS PLEDGE $69.7 MILLION LOAN TO ECOWAS

AB231009 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] The African Development Bank and a consortium of six European financial institutional have pledged $69.7 million to the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS. The loan is for the proposed regional telecommunication project in the community. Member states of ECOWAS that will benefit from the project are requested to contribute $5 million towards the project.

ECOWAS MEETINGS DISCUSS CITIZENSHIP, ECONOMIC TIES

AB260607 Paris AFP in English 0403 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Freetown, May 26 (AFP)--Trade, customs, immigration and monetary problems were discussed in private sessions here Monday by ministers of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) preparing for a summit opening on Wednesday.

The ministers examined the definition of citizenship within the 16-country community, reported a spokesman from the ECOWAS executive secretariat. This concerned the conditions in which a naturalised citizen of one member country could become a community citizen.

Clarification was necessary to ensure the smooth working of the ECOWAS protocol of 1979 on freedom of movement for people in the community, the spokesman explained.

There were disparities arising from members different naturalisation legislation. They threatened to create problems when later stages of the protocol of residence and settlement rights were put into practice, he said.

Preferential treatment requests came from two sub-groupings in ECOWAS, and the ministers set up a restricted committee to examine the technicalities involved and make recommendations to the heads of state. The requests came from the six-nation West African Economic Community of French-speaking countries, and from the three members forming the Mano River Union. They are asking that their own privileged economic ties be maintained despite ECOWAS regulations.

The ministers studied the annual reports presented by Executive Secretary Aboubakar Diaby Quattara and the ECOWAS financial controller. Still to be examined are commission reports on industry, agriculture and natural resources, the spokesman said.

LIBYA

MATERIALS ON QUADRIPARTITE CONFERENCE IN NDJAMENA

Conference Conclusion

LD222354 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 22 May 81

[Text] At the end of its session yesterday evening in Ndjamena, the quadripartite miniconference praised the great role of the Libyan forces in Chad. The conference stressed the importance of the presence of these forces in Chad for the establishment of peace in the country. The conference also expressed the inability of the OAU to pay the expenses of keeping the Libyan forces in Chad. Despite this the heads of state urged that the Libyan forces not be withdrawn from Chad. The conference left it to the Chadian Government to decide for or against the presence of African forces. A committee to be entrusted by the OAU with the Chadian problem will debate the question of the stationing of African forces if the Chadian Government makes such a request.

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech

LD221702 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 May 81

[Excerpt] In his speech, the brother commander demanded that the OAU bear the cost of the Libyan forces in Chad on the ground that they were peacekeeping forces. He also demanded compensation for the Jamahiriyah for the expenditure and losses it had suffered in the process of establishing peace in Chad on behalf of the OAU.

The brother commander also called for Libya to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for the efforts it had exerted to establish peace and stability in Chad.

Commenting on the speech by the Chadian president, the Nigerian president said: We know that peace was restored only with the help of the Libyan forces. He added: At this meeting, we want to make sure that peace will continue in Chad. What we want also is to hear from the Chadians what they want and how to get it because the important thing is what the Chadian people want, not what we want. The Chadian Government has the right to make reservations against anyone it chooses and accept anyone it chooses.

In their speechs today, the leaders affirmed the need to ban the granting of shelter to forces opposed to the Chadian Government by all African governments.

Al-Qadhdhafi AFP Statement

AB231125 Paris AFP in French 1142 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 23 May (AFP)--The OAU has expressed the desire for the Libyan troops to remain in Chad for so long as neutral force has not been sent there, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stated in Ndjamena on Friday. In an exclusive interview with AFP at the end of the minisummit on Chad, the Libyan leader assured that he had decided to totally withdraw the Libyan troops in Chad as their mission has been accomplished but the OAU was opposed to this. He stated that the pan-African organization is convinced of the need to keep free forces in Chad for the moment.

The head of the Libyan revolution then added that he had asked the OAU to pay for the cost of keeping Libyan forces on Chadian territory but the OAU is not capable of assuming the cost and has refused.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that no date has been set so far for sending a neutral African force to Chad. Questioned about the eventual composition of this force, he laconically replied: The countries that Chad will accept. The Libyan head of state said he would do everything possible to enable the neutral African force play its role.

He added that the Libyan Army is at the disposal of the Chadian authorities. The situation on the border between Sudan and Chad was specially examined during the minisummit. He expressed his concern over the concentration of Egyptian force in this region. In this region, there are the seeds of a second war in Chad, he added.

Finally, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the Ndjamena minisummit took place in an atmosphere of understanding. His fellow participants expressed satisfaction with the positive role played by Libya in restoring peace to Chad. We have restored a climate of stability and security in this country. Without our military intervention, we would not be here to discuss it, he concluded.

SUDAN

WITHDRAWAL OF AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA ANNOUNCED

JN271030 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 27 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 27 May (SUNA)--An official source announced here today that Sudan has decided to withdraw its ambassador from Syria in response to Syria's announcement last Sunday that it will not send an ambassador to Sudan.

NUMAYRI SPEAKS ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT 25 MAY

LD251846 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1734 GMT 24 May 81 EA

[Speech by Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri on the 12th anniversary of the May revolution at friendship hall in Khartoum--live]

[Excerpts] I hail in your name, brothers, the visiting military, workers and womens delegations [applause] which have come to participate in the glory of these moments. I hail in your name the military delegations which have come from fraternal and friendly states to participate with us in the glory of this occasion. I hail the delegation of fraternal Qatar. [applause] I hail the delegations from the friendly countries of people's China, the United States, Federal Germany and the Republic of France.

I have said again and again and again, and I will repeat again and again, that if oil gushed forth in our land in rivers, whatever its volume, it would be but an addition to our wealth and not a substitute for our immortal wealth--agricultural and animal wealth. Brothers, oil in the Sudan will not be a luxury commodity. It will not be a luxury for a minority and it will not be a manifestation of wealth for some people at the expense of all. Brothers, oil in the Sudan, whatever its volume, will be for all of Sudan, and all the Sudanese, buttressing their efforts and stimulating their actions for the welfare and prosperity of all.

Brothers, we are still moving in this field. Multiple efforts at prospecting in the east, south, west, north and central parts of the country are taking place. We have progressed along the road of investment [word indistinct] in what has so far been discovered. Studies have been completed for the pipeline and for the Kosti refinery, which was scheduled to absorb quantities of oil that have already been discovered and which will result in self-sufficiency for the southern and western parts of the country.

However, in conjunction with the completion of construction of a refinery, recent discoveries of new wells that have recently been explored have achieved--praise be to God--quantities of oil that will result in self-sufficiency for Sudan. Hence, the yields from any new discoveries will provide surpluses that will be available for export. [applause]

The vacuum between hope and the fulfillment of hope is one that can only be filled by work and patience. With work and patience we will achieve our desired goal of self-sufficiency, abundance, happiness and prosperity, God willing.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers: The issue of integration between Egypt and the Sudan cannot be seen apart from the struggle of the people of the Nile Valley, which has been going on ever since this ancient people established the basis of the first civilization witnessed by history.

The formula for integration between Egypt and the Sudan is not a merely a job of the governments--rather, it is a question of the will of the people of the two countries. Although the formula for integration between Egypt and the Sudan is, in form though not in substance, an agreement between governments, it is nevertheless the will of one people, who ignored differences between the governments, demanded integration, forgot the temporary slackness of purpose and insisted on it. Thus the decision of the central committee to support integration.

Therefore, I still ask and demand from my brother Anwar [as-Sadat] that our efforts should be integrated so as to repair the disunity caused by the [Aswan] High Dam despite its great potential, a disunity which broke the ancient human bonds in the Sudanese-Egyptian An-Nubah region. What we must do in Egypt and the Sudan is redevelop the dam area and the banks of its great lake. Our duty is to return life to this area--not for any economic benefit, however great, but rather for the national benefit presented by the bonds and ties linking the people of the Nile Valley in Egypt and the Sudan. The depth of the relations between the Sudan [and Egypt] can never approve of or agree to a vacuum.

Therefore, what is also required of Egypt and the Sudan is joint action to activate human interrelationships and intertribal activities in the Red Sea area. I believe that the achievement of this on the river banks and near the sea coast should have absolute priority as the basis and starting point of integration. Brothers, in the coming stage we look forward to concrete measures to meet the needs of Sudanese and Egyptian citizens, a matter which affirms and does not negate the correspondence of feeling and interests of the two peoples. The coming stage should see a rail link between Halfa and Aswan, the construction of a road between Aswan and Halfa, the activation of water-borne transport on the dam's lake, the completion in paving of an overland route between Port Sudan and (Barmis), the removal of all restrictions on individual travel, the transfer of capital and manpower between here and there and conformity of investment conditions and ownership by a Sudanese in Egypt and an Egyptian in the Sudan. [applause]

The very close links between Sudan and Egypt, the potential for integration between Egypt and Sudan and the bonds of kinship, history and destiny linking the two peoples permit me to address you and say: Brother President as-Sadat, Egypt cannot separate itself from the Arab nation [applause] because Egypt, by virtue of its vast size, its large population and economic potential, its effective presence in the African Continent and the Islamic nation, its effective weight in international affairs--Egypt, by virtue of all these potentials for the Arab nation, the Arab destiny and the Arab future--by affiliation we are on the side of the Arab nation and Egypt in destiny belongs to the Arab nation, because Egypt belongs to the Arabs and it can never belong to others.

It is the arena of their struggle and they are the essence of its role. They are the affirmation of its leadership. They are the embodiment of its leadership. They are partners with her in sacrifice. They are companions on the battlefield. She was there and they were hers. She will continue to be theirs and they hers until the truth is confirmed and all the Arab territories are liberated [applause] and the Arab will is liberated from [words indistinct]

I say to my brother President as-Sadat: Today you are here in Khartoum, the capital of steadfastness which received Nasir following the 1967 defeat [applause] to affirm to him, the Arab nation and the entire world that a transient setback does not mean permanent defeat.

The loss of one battle is not the end of the road. I say to you, brother Anwar: You are here in the capital of Sudan, which achieved, in spite of the bitterness of the defeat in 1967, an Arab solidarity that grew to take part in making the Arab victory in the October war of 1973. [applause]

I say to you, my brother Anwar: You are here in the land of the 25th of May revolution, which happened to be the first revolution after the setback. It sparked to affirm the vitality of the Arab nation and their ability to renew their sacrifices. I tell you, Brother Anwar, you were a witness to what Sudan offered, regardless of any consideration of my person. You remember when Sudan waded through seas of blood and fire in Jordan in 1970 [applause] with the aim of saving the Palestinian revolution and Arab solidarity.

Brother Anwar: I tell you I raised my voice a few weeks ago in this very hall at an international conference on Islamic preaching. I said, and said quite loudly, that it is one of the prerequisites of Arab and Islamic solidarity that Egypt is not isolated from the Arab-Islamic nation. [applause] I tell you, Brother Anwar: You have regained Egyptian territory but it is also Arab territory. However, there is still Arab territory under occupation and oppression subject to aggression and injustice. Indeed, more Arab territory is the object of Israeli ambition. My Brother Anwar: I tell you the place of Egypt is in the Arab nation, with the Arab nation and for the Arab nation. [words indistinct]

For all this I want to declare here in your presence that Sudan is ready to participate in any and every Arab effort to call an Arab summit in which Egypt will participate with the aim of [applause] reaching a formula for united Arab action and within the framework of the decisions of the Algiers and Rabat summits.

Whatever differences exist, there still remains a basis for agreement. There is Egypt's commitment to its Arabism. There is Egypt's affiliation to the nation. There is Egypt's concern to regain Arab rights, the Arab occupied territories and, above all, Jerusalem. There is international unanimity about the rights of the Palestinian people. There is a European initiative that complements, not contradicts, Arab objectives. There is an international atmosphere ready for the convening of an international conference to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region, with all parties participating. There is a concept in Israel [words indistinct] that it can deal with the Arabs without Egypt and deal with Egypt in isolation from the Arabs.

Brothers, I know that what I am calling for will be misunderstood and misinterpreted. I expect, from now on, radio stations to compete with one another in attacks and commentaries talking about betrayal. [applause] I know that a call such as this will shock those who use Arab differences to further their own ends and those of the international forces for whom they work as agents. I know [words indistinct] and that is what forces me to be insistent in my call and ask everyone who is loyal to his nation and the justice of its cause to join me in this call. The Arab League must play a part in this, and so must the political establishments and popular organizations throughout the Arab homeland.

I know that what I am calling for requires submission to the voice of reason and not to the voice of emotion. There is a need for patience and self-control and the ability to see the darkness of the future within the framework of the present-day experience of our Arab nation.

All parties must rise above the bitterness and wounds of a highly delicate phase in the history of our Arab nation. The voice of reason must prevail over the voice of emotion. Let action in the service of the future of this nation come before all considerations.

You know and I know that the visit of brother President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat will open the door wide to misguided interpretations. There will be talk again about a Sudanese-Egyptian axis to face the colonel's Libya. There will be talk again about an Egyptian military presence in Sudan. There will be a lot of talk about Egyptian air, naval and land bases in Sudan. We shall remain silent as is our custom. Indeed, we shall ignore such talk because the relations of the two countries are above being an axis. The security of the two countries is interlocked deep in both countries, from Juba to Alexandria, without any need for the transfer of bases or the movement of troops. Brothers, we are not in confrontation with the people of Libya nor do we want Libyan territory, for the Libyan people are a fraternal people and the Libyan territory was an arena for the movement of the Sudanese Army and the Egyptian Army--who did not, however, enter it as invaders, but to help liberate it from the fascist occupation during World War II. We are not in confrontation with the Libyan people. We do not want their territory [words indistinct].

What we are in confrontation with is the stupidities of the Libyan rulers, who began by squandering the wealth of the Libyan people and ended by wasting their blood in Chad and elsewhere.

We support stability in Chad. We support national unity in Chad. We support the unanimous African denunciation of the Libyan invasion and demand Libyan withdrawal from Chad. We support international conventions that condemn aggression and denounce intervention in the internal affairs of other states. We shall support Chad until it is liberated from each and every foreign presence and influence. When that is achieved we shall open our hearts and extend our hands once again to cooperate with all for stability, progress and liberation of all our neighbors without exception.

We are not advocates of hostility. We are peacemakers. We believe that our stability is strengthened by the stability of those around us. We realize that the ties of religion, kinship and neighborliness are stronger and more permanent than ambition and self-interest. All that remains is for others besides us to believe in this. Then we shall not be niggardly in sincerity nor hesitate to open a new page appropriate to our ties with the fraternal people of Libya.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers, our foreign policy will remain steady, clear-cut and strongly supported. It is a firm and definite fulfillment of support for the causes of freedom. it is a permanent effort for peace and stability in the world. It restrains us from interference in the internal affairs of other states. It promotes and develops relations with neighbors and solidarity with our brothers in the Arab homeland, the African Continent and the international community. It promotes our relations with sisterly Egypt in a manner that befits the special nature of that relationship. It provides for unqualified support for the cause of Arab rights in Palestine, the liberation of the occupied territories and for the people of Palestine in the achievement of their right to self-determination and the establishment of their own state. It is a call for Arab solidarity and the abandonment of all methods based on axes. It means support for the helpless peoples in Africa in their struggle to escape from the noose of occupation and the yoke of racial discrimination.

Brothers, we are advocates of peace, seekers of peace and makers of peace--of peace based on justice and on the right of all peoples to self-determination. Hence our moves. We will continue our moves to end all forms of conflict in the Horn of Africa. We have already taken a step along this road. Such practical steps continue and we appeal to the brothers in Somalia and Ethiopia to let the voice of peace rise above the drums of war, and to let dialogue become a substitute for other means that do not serve the cause of stability, development and progress for the two brotherly peoples and so that the escalation of conflict in this part of the continent may not be a pretext for international influence and conflict. We support the [word indistinct] of peace which cannot be imposed by force, particularly between brothers. Therefore, the Sudan supports every constructive dialogue for ending the conflict in Eritrea.

Therefore, the Sudan is maintaining and intensifying its efforts to strengthen cooperation and integration among the East African states as a basis and starting point for greater and more comprehensive cooperation involving all the states of the continent. The Sudanese-Kenyan-Ethiopian grouping is a step along this road. It is a grouping that has room for the inclusion of Somalia, Djibouti, Uganda, Tanzania and other states in the area until its fulfills its aims of guaranteeing peace in the region and providing a base for its march along the road of cooperation and integration for the prosperity of its peoples.

Our role in this part of the world is imposed on us by both our principles and interests without any contradiction, because the causes of security and stability are indivisible, particularly among states and peoples which are neighbors and whose land and population intermesh. Therefore, I appeal here and now to the brothers in Uganda to listen to the voice of reason, so that stability prevails in their brotherly country and their energies are directed towards work and struggle for reconstruction under their legal government. We in the Sudan have not stinted and will not stint in the provision of every assistance asked for by the brothers in Uganda. We support their struggle for reconstruction after years of war, conflict and sabotage.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers, the issue of security and development in Africa cannot be separated from the issue of liberation from foreign influence and racist subjugation on the continent. Therefore, we demand of the states that stood against the independence of Namibia to reconsider their stand, because real independence can be based only on justice and justice cannot prevail when the minority dominates the majority.

Brothers, we in the Sudan participate in and bless every Islamic, Arab and international effort to end the Iran-Iraq war, which can only drain the blood of Muslims and be a cause of danger and international conflict in the area. We appeal here and now to the brothers in Baghdad and Tehran to put an end to the bloodshed and exhaustion of energies and to realize that the division of Muslims and Arabs into camps around them is merely a waste of the energies of the Islamic and Arab nation, whose entire energies and efforts should be directed towards restoring their usurped rights, their occupied land and captured Jerusalem.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers, we are with the brotherly people of Lebanon for the sake of confirming the maintenance of their independence and unity. By virtue of belonging to one nation and fighting one battle in the same trench, we ask all sides in the Lebanese arena to be unified under the banner of legality in Lebanon, because it is the only basis for national unity. It is the firm guarantee for the liberation of southern Lebanon from Israeli domination and for the safeguarding of east Lebanon and indeed all Lebanon against Israeli threats.

Arab differences were the cause of calamity in 1948. Arab conflicts were the cause of the setback in 1967. Receding Arab solidarity which (?surrounded) the victory of October caused the cancellation of some gains of the October war. Therefore, what is required of the brothers in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Arab arena is that their stands should be unified and that they should rise above every disagreement so that Lebanon is not lost as Jerusalem and the other occupied Arab territories were lost.

The voice of the Sudan has been the first and loudest in the search for a formula for unified Arab action and for a commitment to an Arab strategy by which all will abide. Brothers, we demanded this as the indispensable and irreplaceable means of recovering our occupied Arab land. Today our insistence on this demand increases, not for the sake of liberating the land alone but so as to confront the Israeli danger, whose intentions and moves for the occupation of more Arab territories in Lebanon and elsewhere are quite open.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers, on a day like this and on an occasion like this, the crowning touch must be praise for the people who set off their revolution, the people who stood by their principles, the people who continued their march until their greatest aims were achieved--that is, the unification of their homeland and the confirmation of the unity of their nation.

If glory belongs to the people on the day of glory, then the guards of that glory and their armed forces and other regular forces [applause] which were their allies at the dawn of the revolution--those who made the dawn on the day of the victory of the revolution and those who, by their affiliation to the people, confirmed their loyalty to the people. Hence, they have been and will continue to be a shield that protects their unity, a citadel that safeguards their gains, an armed guard that sacrifices blood and sweat for the aims of their revolution, so that the Sudan continues forever to be one and so that the Sudanese nation remains always united. Glory to the people of the Sudan and their armed forces and victory to the people of the Sudan through their armed forces.

LIBYANS REPORTEDLY REINFORCING FORCES IN CHAD

JN231137 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 23 May (SUNA)--An eyewitness who arrived from Abeche yesterday told SUNA that the Libyan forces are consolidating their military presence in Chad and strengthening it with more forces, arms and materiel. At the same time, the Libyan regime is conducting a camouflage operation via its information media by broadcasting statements by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi claiming that the Libyan soldiers will gradually withdraw from Chad. The eyewitness added that in the past few days the Libyan forces in Abeche and (Atya), west of Abeche, have been reinforced. About 120 vehicles of the (Diro) type loaded with tanks and soldiers arrived this week in Abeche from the Libyan town of Al-Kufrah. Furthermore, the Libyan occupation forces have begun to strengthen their defensive fortifications around Abeche and have forcibly evacuated the people in the villages around the town, killing or wounding several during the eviction operation.

Resistance against the Libyan presence in Abeche has escalated. The report says that the Chadians in Abeche have distributed leaflets asking Goukouni Oueddei's government for compensation for their property which was burned during shelling by the Libyan regime's tanks and Acyl Ahmat's forces, which have become an indivisible part of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's forces, during the resistance against the Libyan occupation in Abeche in April. The leaflets also called for withdrawal of the Libyan regime's forces from Chad, saying that these forces pose a threat to their country and the neighboring countries. The leaflets called on Goukouni Oueddei to come to term with the opposition leaders, including Hissein Habre, leader of the Northern Armed Forces and defense minister in the provisional government headed by Goukouni Oueddei.

The report adds that strengthening of the Libyan presence in Chad has not been limited only to military reinforcements and fresh arms arriving in Abeche but has extended to other important domains. The Libyan regime's forces in Chad have begun to build a radio station in Abeche without consulting the provisional government, thus behaving like an occupation force. An earlier attempt by the Libyan regime to operate a radio station in Abeche was thwarted, in application of the Lagos resolutions, which banned the operation of local radio stations outside the Chadian capital of Ndjamena, by the town mayor, Martyr (Adam Barkah), who was killed in the recent incidents in Abeche by the Libyan regime's forces.

ETHIOPIA

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CUBA

FL231858 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1821 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Cuba's Pedro Kouri Tropical Medicine Institute and Ethiopia's Central Laboratory Research Work Institute have signed a cooperation agreement in Addis Ababa. The document was signed by (Kiseasa Meskal), director of the Ethiopian scientific institution, and Carlos M. Finlay, deputy director of Cuba's Tropical Medicine Institute. The protocol, the first of its type to be signed by the Cuban scientific institution with an African country, is part of the agreement on scientific, technical and economic cooperation signed by Cuba and Ethiopia in 1979.

According to Dr Carlos M. Finlay, the cooperation agreement provides for the exchange of biological materials, the training of scientific personnel and the conducting of initial contacts with institutions of interest to Cuba and Ethiopia.

KENYA

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON CAUSE OF STUDENT UNREST

LD242226 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 May 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today blamed the recurring disturbances at the University of Nairobi on Marxist lecturers who have been using the students to spread anarchy in the country. The president said the so-called Marxists, both at the campus and elsewhere, have wrecked the lives of students from poor families by using the few misguided elements, particularly students from the rich families, to cause chaos. He said poor parents undergo terrible hardship striving to educate their children and yet those agents of Marxism continue to disrupt the smooth running of the university to the detriment of those whose cause they claim to champion. He wondered whether these people were doing justice to the country.

The president, who was speaking after attending a Sunday morning church service at Christ The King Cathedral in Nakuru, said it was clear that there was an element of foreign agitation in the recent university riots. He disclosed that he had stopped the departure from the country of some lecturers who wanted to decamp after the recent disturbances at the university. He said the lecturers behind the disturbances must stay here and suffer for their hideous acts.

His excellency advised that anybody who professed to speak for the poor must be sincere and ensure that his actions are geared towards raising the standards of living of the people. He stressed that all Kenyans had a duty to protect the lives of children and abide by the law and if some people go astray, he had a duty to put them back on the right track.

President Moi said anybody who felt concerned about the welfare of wananchi [the local people] must show by deeds that his cause was genuine and also assist in the generating of ideas that will promote the standards of living of the people. He said everyone should ask himself or herself the number of people he or she had helped to better their living standards.

Speaking on doctors' behavior, the president expressed his disappointment over their endless demands and their disregard for human lives. He observed that the ongoing doctors strike was a proof that they, too, were being used by certain elements to cause trouble in the country. He told the crowd that when asking for their salaries to be raised, the doctors had proposed salaries higher than even that of the head of state. He said this gave credence to the belief that doctors had an ulterior motive behind their demands. The president said the government was spending 180,000 shillings on every intern doctor every year and they should serve the people without making impossible demands. He said Kenya was striving to create a classless society where people could work for their common good at the same time respecting one another. He called on the people to love children so that they also could learn to love when they grew up.

MOI DENIES KENYA HARBORING UGANDAN GUERRILLAS

LD261958 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 May 81 EA

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi has reiterated that Kenya will not allow anyone on her soil to raise his voice or finger against Uganda. President Moi said this today at State House, Nairobi, when he received credentials from the envoys accredited to Kenya by Uganda, Spain and Gabon.

President Moi dismissed claims that Kenya is harboring Ugandan guerrillas and said these were unfounded. He added that Kenya wants her to be united and carry on her reconstruction program in peace. He stated that people bent on bringing bloodshed and insecurity in Uganda would not be allowed to operate from Kenyan soil.

The president said this when he received the first Ugandan high commissioner to Kenya, Mr David Mwaka, who lived in Kenya for several years as a refugee and taught in a number of schools in Ukambani. Kenya's first high commissioner to Uganda, Mr Wafula Wabuge, presented his credentials to President Milton Obote early last month. The president assured the new Ugandan high commissioner that Kenya would work closely with President Obote's government for the benefit of the two peoples.

The Ugandan high commissioner said Kenya was Uganda's biggest trading partner and depended very much on Kenya for his country's exports and imports through the port of Mombasa. He expressed the hope that his country, which had been plundered by a regime of murder and destruction to property, would once again rise and shine under the leadership of President Obote.

SOMALIA

MOGADISHU CRITICIZES SOVIET SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA

LD231632 Mogadishu International Service in English 1100 GMT 23 May 81 EA

[Text] If radio Addis Ababa is silent on the Somali Democratic Republic for some time, Moscow is ready to take up the cudgels immediately and vice versa. Of course the link between radio Addis Ababa and radio Moscow are too obvious to be missed and the puzzle to the question who takes the cue from whom is [words indistinct] secret. Ethiopia is without any doubt a Soviet satellite totally subject to its mercy and interest in defense of the Kremlin.

With this in mind, no one can be in doubt about the recent abuses that have been pouring from the radio of these two countries. In fact, we have been expecting commentaries on our president's visit to the United States from both places. In the event [as heard] there could be nothing new in their misrepresentation of this visit. They mainly harped on the old theme of American military bases and the attendant dangers to peace and security.

While it may be pointless to refute the lies of these two radios, it would be well to bear in mind that the Abyssinian regime is again faced with disastrous defeat at the hands of the western Somali liberation forces who, after the rainy season, have escalated their ordeals inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in lives and property. So Addis Ababa side has also asked for more help. Consequently we are now about to see the dispatch once more of Russian sophisticated armaments and Cuban troops into western Somalia. (?And this is) the new source of danger for the Horn of Africa and also the whole world at large.

Hence, so long as Abyssinia refuses to recognize the rights of the freedom fighters in the area and so long as the Kremlin backs their (?up-to-now) illicit war there can be no solution to the problem of the region. And how far a cheap propaganda go in contributing to a just and durable solution? [as heard]

TANZANIA

ANC CALLS FOR SANCTIONS' OIL EMBARGO ON S. AFRICA

LD242136 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 24 May 81 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The ANC of South Africa has called upon independent Africa and its liberation movements to exert more pressure against South Africa to force it to abandon its apartheid policy. In a message on the 18th anniversary tomorrow of the OAU, the ANC called for the imposition of economic sanctions and an oil embargo against the Pretoria regime. It also urged the international community to step up its efforts for the release of all political prisoners in South African jails.

The ANC also condemned the Thatcher and Reagan administrations for supporting the South African regime in its acts of aggression against independent southern African states.

GDR ENVOY PLEDGES SUPPORT TO SOUTH AFRICA ANC

LD221145 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 22 May 81 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The GDR has pledged continued support for the liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia from oppression of the apartheid regime. The GDR ambassador to Tanzania, Ndugu Werner (Lebbitz), said this when he was handing over gifts of clothes, medicines and foodstuffs, worth over 500,000 shillings to the African National Congress of South Africa. He said his country had a long history of friendship with the peoples struggling for freedom.

Replying to the ambassador's speech, the ANC chief representative to Tanzania, Ndugu (Lodwini Muzola), strongly critized the new American administration's policy on Africa.

UGANDA

MUWANGA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING TOUR

LD221848 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 May 81 EA

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has said Uganda has the sympathy and goodwill of many countries which are solidly behind the government in her efforts to improve the economic and security situation in the country. Mr Muwanga, addressing a press conference in Kampala today about his trip which took him to the Sudan, Egypt, Iraq and Algeria, said that he and his delegation had very fruitful discussions on matters of mutual interest with leaders of those countries, who expressed willingness and readiness to assist Uganda in various fields.

The vice president reaffirmed the intention and commitment of the government to keep in touch and in consultations with the leadership of all friendly countries, adding that this is why within the 4 months the government has been in power President Obote has visited all the neighboring countries. He pointed out that this is not the end but the beginning of the diplomatic shuttle.

Mr Muwanga assured the press that contrary to what some people are saying, the security situation in the country is under control.

The press conference was attended by the ministers of information, Dr David Anyoti; of state for foreign affairs, Dr Albert Picho Owiny; and of transport and telecommunications [title as heard], Mr Akena Piojok.

CAMEROON

GABONESE GOVERNMENT ASKS STUDENTS TO LEAVE YAOUNDE

AB261327 Paris AFP in French 1158 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Yaounde, 26 May (AFP)--Some hundred Gabonese students, who constitute the main Gabonese community in Yaounde, have been asked by their government to return home following violent demonstrations last Saturday in Libreville, it was learned from reliable sources on Tuesday. This move has come as a surprise to Cameroonian Government circles as they say Gabonese nationals in Cameroon have never been harassed.

Also regular air services between the two countries by Air Gabon and Cameroon Airlines have been interrupted until further notice. No official reasons were given for this decision. About 3,000 Cameroonian nationals in Gabon were repatriated within the last 48 hours on board Cameroonian civil and military planes. Some 5,000 out of the 40,000 Cameroonian nationals in Gabon are still waiting to be repatriated it was specified in Yaounde.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

SUPREME COURT VALIDATES DAVID DACKO ELECTION

AB222022 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 May 81

[Text] The 16 March 1981 presidential elections were validated today in Bangui by a decision of the Supreme Court in lieu of the constitutional council, which has not been installed yet. It should be recalled that following the election, the four contesting losers filed a petition calling for the nullification of the election. Two months after the petition had been filed, the Supreme Court, in compliance with the law, has rendered the following decision--read by its president, Mr Edouard (Fob):

[Begin recording] The Supreme Court has held a unique session in lieu of the constitutional council. The session was held on (?16) May 1981 behind closed doors. The (?text) reads as follows:

Article 1: The petition filed on 26 March 1981 by Abel Guende-Goumba, Ange Patasse, Henri Maidou and Francois Pehoua, calling for the invalidation of the presidential election held on 16 March 1981, is rejected.

Article 2: The results of the election, with Mr David Dacko the winner, are declared valid.

The (?signatories) to the petition will be notified of this decision within seven days in compliance with Article 98 line 5 of the electoral code. [end of recording]

CHAD

AFRICAN NEUTRAL FORCE DOMINATES NDJAMENA MEETING

AB231145 Paris AFP in French 1102 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 23 May (AFP)--The problem of an African neutral force in Chad dominated the 2-day discussions of the OAU minisummit on the Chadian crisis which ended in Ndjamena on Friday evening. No decision seems to have been made during this meeting and no communique has been issued on its activities. The OAU still has to determine the composition of this neutral force and also set the date it will be set up in Chad.

According to an authorized Chadian source, it is stated that only the OAU is empowered to issue a communique since the Ndjamena minisummit was held under its auspices. It is therefore the duty of the current OAU chairman and president of Sierra Leone, Mr Siaka Stevens, or OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, to later publish a final communique if they find it necessary, the same source adds.

Apart from Mr Stevens and Mr Kodjo, those who participated in the Ndjamena minisummit were the president of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Chad, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, and the heads of state of Nigeria, Alhadji Shehu Shagari and the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Stevens' Press Remarks

AB231210 Paris AFP in English 1202 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Ndjamena, May 23 (AFP)--The Organisation of African Unity is actively engaged in forming a neutral African force for despatch to Chad, OAU Chairman Siaka Stevens said here. Speaking after a four-state summit in Chad under OAU auspices which ended in the Chadian capital last night, Mr. Stevens told reporters he wanted the force to be deployed rapidly.

The war is finished but we never know what the future holds, he said. "There are people who could seek to stir up new troubles in the country." Mr. Stevens, who is president of Sierra Leone, also expressed his conviction that Libyan troops present in Chad will gradually withdraw. He refused explicity to link withdrawal of the Libyan troops with the arraival in Chad of a neutral African force.

Asked about the finance necessary for the despatch of such a force, Mr. Stevens said that instructions will soon be given to the OAU's ad hoc committee on Chad. The OAU chairman has left for home.

Nigerian Source Criticism

AB231200 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Lagos, May 23 (AFP)--A four-state summit on Chad under OAU (Organisation of African Unity) auspices, which ended yesterday, achieved nothing and could be considered a failure, a source in the Nigerian delegation said here today.

No decision was taken regarding the withdrawal of Libyan troops from Chad, or the sending of an inter-African force, said the source close to President Shehu Shagari, who returned from the talks in the Chadian capital Ndjamena last night.

Present at the meeting, besides Mr. Shagari, were Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei and Sierra Leonean President Siaka Stevens, who is chairman of the OAU.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi maintained at the meeting that the OAU could not withdraw the Libyan troops, the source said. The recent arrival of the Libyan troops in Chad hastened the end of a civil war there.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also insisted that the conference was not necessary, the source said, "Libya's stand was that if Goukouni wants withdrawal (of the Libyan troops), its up to him.

But the Chadian president showed no sign of wanting the troops to withdraw, the source said. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was also not interested in a peacekeeping force, the source added. The Nigerian president returned to Lagos on Thursday after a first session of the summit, going back to Ndjamena yesterday morning before returning here again during the night.

HABRE ISSUES COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCING SUMMIT MEETING

NC221037 Paris AFP in English 1021 GMT 22 May 81

[Excerpts] Paris, 22 May (AFP)--The movement of defeated rebel Chadian leader Hissein Habre today attacked the restricted African summit on Chad which opened in the Chadian capital Ndjamena yesterday.

In a communique issued here, the command council of Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North described the meeting as "another machination" by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi "in complicity with certain African heads of state".

The aim was to "revive the Transitional Government of National Unity, which has not existed since May 10, and to endorse Tripoli's hold on Chad," the communique said.

"No legal framework exists for this meeting, and the presence of the OAU's chairman in no way signifies that it is taking place under the auspices of the panAfrican institution," the communique said.

The communique said that only an OAU committee of 12 was the appropriate forum in the search for a "just and lasting peace in Chad".

It said that the leadership of Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North did not believe in "the possibility of a withdrawal of Libyan troops" in Chad, saying that they had been reinforced.

"A struggle of national resistance led by the FAN (Armed Forces of the North) and their allies constitutes the only adequate means of repelling the Libyan invader from Chad."

LIBYAN REINFORCEMENTS CLAIMED SENT TO EASTERN AREA

AB261245 Paris AFP in French 1144 GMT 26 May 81

[Excerpt] Yaounde, 26 May (AFP)--Substantial Libyan reinforcements have been sent recently to the localities of Ati and Abeche in the central and eastern parts of Chad, well informed sources in Yaounde confirmed on Tuesday. These reinforcements are essentially made up of logistics support and many hundreds of men. The Libyan intervention force in Chad is presently made up of between 13,000 and 15,000 men, the same sources state in the Cameroonian capital.

The sending of these reinforcements was announced by the Sudanese press agency (SUNA) on 23 May.

Ati and Abeche, respectively situated about 500 and 700 km to the east of Ndjamena, are two important military garrisons situated on the main road linking the Chadian capital with the Sudanese border.

GABON

ANTI-CAMEROONIAN INCIDENTS OCCUR IN LIBREVILLE

23 May Report

AB240824 Paris AFP in French 1833 GMT 23 May 81

[Text] Libreville, 23 May (AFP)--Violent anti-Cameroonian demonstrations took place in Libreville on Saturday and the Cameroonian Embassy there had to be cordoned off in the late evening by the police. The Cameroonian ambassador to Gabon, Mr Zachee Mongo Soo, told the AFP over the phone that several of his fellow countrymen were wounded.

The daily newspaper, L'UNION OF LIBREVILLE, on Friday published a report on the soccer match which took place on Wednesday in Douala between the FC 105 club of Libreville and the Douala Sports Union, a match which had to be interrupted. The paper accompanied its article with a photograph of seven members of the Gabonese team lying on the lawn after a fight with the Cameroonian players. Several Cameroonians have now sought refuge in the embassy, the Cameroonian ambassador said. The district in which the building is situated is controlled by the police.

According to Gabonese Government sources, all efforts are being made to stop these incidents as soon as possible. All security forces have been mobilized and by Saturday evening order will be restored, the same source points out. According to several witnesses, several cars belonging to both Cameroonians and Gabonese were burned during the demonstrations and stone fighting took place. Several stores owned by Cameroonians were looted, according to these same witnesses.

Deaths Noted; Calm Restored

AB241120 Paris AFP in French 1020 GMT 24 May 81

[Excerpt] Libreville, 24 May (AFP)--The incidents which occured in Libreville on Saturday caused two deaths on the Gabonese side, it was learned from a reliable source in Libreville on Sunday.

In his appeal for calm launched on radio and television on Saturday evening, the Gabonese minister of interior, Mr Richard Nguema, stressed that the government has taken every measure to ensure public order throughout the country. Sports are a factor of unity among peoples, Mr Nguema said. The minister also stressed the need to maintain the relations of cooperation existing between Gabon and Cameroon as well as the friendship and fraternity ties which exist between the two peoples. The calm restored in the Gabonese capital on Saturday evening still reigned on Sunday morning.

Foreign Ministry Statement

AB260952 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] And now here is an explanation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation on the recent conflict between Gabonese and Cameroonian nationals, a conflict which is indeed regrettable. It is being rumored persistently that the Gabonese Government is expelling Cameroonian nationals from its national territory.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation would like to point out that in accordance with the verbal message conveyed to the Cameroonian ambassador in Gabon yesterday, 24 May, when he received the minister-delegate to the prime minister for interministerial coordination and acting minister of foreign affairs and cooperation in return for his visit to the government the previous day, the Gabonese Government intends to facilitate the departure of members of the Cameroonian colony in Gabon who would like to return to their country. The ministry also asked the embassy to state whether its nationals were returning temporarily or permanently.

It therefore considers [words indistinct] that the present communique rectifies the false impression created by the Gabonese commission in this affair, an impression which should not serve as a pretext for the cooling of relations of friendship, hospitality and good-neighbor relations existing between Cameroon and Gabon. Finally, it points out, in the same context, that the Gabonese nationals who returned form Cameroon did so of their own accord and not because they were forced to do so by the Cameroonian authorities.

Airlift of Cameroonians

AB260908 Paris AFP in English 0845 GMT 26 May 81

[Excerpt] Libreville, May 26 (AFP)--A massive airlift homewards of expatriate Cameroonians subjected to public harassment here in neighbouring Gabon after an international football match continued well into Monday night.

Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo ordered military and civil aircraft to open an air bridge between Libreville and Douala, Cameroon, on Sunday night after rioting broke out in the Gabonese capital on Saturday following fighting between football teams from the two countries during a match in Douala on Friday. Two people, both Gabanose, were reported killed in the Saturday clashes.

The airlift was briefly halted at midday yesterday when Senegalese President Abdou Diouf arrived at Libreville airport at the start of an official visit to Gabon.

Informed sources here said that more than 2,000 people had been evacuated to Cameroon before Dr Diouf arrived, and the four aircraft involved in the operation resumed their flights soon after the airport was reopened.

LIBERIA

SOVIET EMBASSY REPORTEDLY HAS NOT REDUCED STAFF

AB262115 Paris AFP in French 1918 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Monrovia, 26 May (AFP)--The Soviet Embassy in Liberia has not reduced its personnel as the Liberian Government has requested, the government-oriented newspaper the NEW LIBERIAN disclosed on Tuesday.

The paper, quoting the Liberian Foreign Affairs Ministry, explains that the government had given 2 weeks--the deadline was Monday--to the Soviet Embassy in Monrovia to reduce its staff from 15 to 6. According to the newspaper, Mr Ulanov Anatoliy, the Soviet ambassador to Liberia, who had left for Moscow before the decision by the People's Redemption Council (the ruling military regime) on 11 May, has asked for an audience with the head of state, M Sgt Samuel K. Doe.

GOVERNMENT OPPOSES CHANGING SHIP REGISTRY SYSTEM

AB262114 Paris AFP in English 1346 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Monrovia, May 26 (AFP)--Liberia expressed its opposition today to any moves against the system of open registries, whereby ships from any country may register under flags of convenience such as those of Liberia and Panama. The shipping committee of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development opens a meeting tomorrow in Geneva that will consider acting on UNCTAD's recommendations that open registries be phased out. UNCTAD took that position at a meeting in the Philippines last year, saying the system had stifled development of merchant fleets by third-world countries. Liberia's maritime office said that, on the contrary, Liberian-flag vessels and other convenience-flag ships trained and employed seamen from developing countries on a scale that would not have been possible were these fleets registered with traditional maritime nations. About 2,400 ships fly the Liberian flag.

MALI

LAGOS REPORTS SHAGARI, TRAORE 25 MAY TALKS

AB262139 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 26 May 81

[Text] Details of the talks held in Bamako, Mali, yesterday between President Shehu Shagari and his host, President Moussa Traore, have now been disclosed. The Nigerian leader said in the Malian capital today that the discussions centered on bilateral relations, the situation in Western Sahara, South Africa and the independence of Namibia as well as the Chadian conflict. President Shagari added that ways of strengthening the ECOWAS were also being given prominence at the talks. He emphasized the need for all member nations of the community to work toward the realization of the objectives of the organization. A radio Nigeria correspondent covering the tour, (Andy Anarado), said officials of both countries are working out details for the establishment of a Nigerian-Mali joint commission. The president winds up his visit tomorrow when he leaves for Freetown, Sierra Leone.

NIGERIA

VICE PRESIDENT URGES SANCTIONS AGAINST PRETORIA

AB221836 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 22 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Nigeria wants the United Nations and OAU to denounce the veto caused by some West African countries on sanctions against South Africa. The NEW NIGERIAN and the DAILY SKETCH report that Vice President Alex Ekwueme made the call in a keynote address to an international conference on sanctions against South Africa presently going on in Paris, France.

This apart, they say Dr Ekwueme would like the conference to review the measures taken by the international community toward elimination of apartheid since the Lagos meeting. Besides, the papers further report that the vice president called on the world body to set in motion international actions which would bring South Africa to its knees. Because of the recent failure of the Security Council to enforce comprehensive and mandatory sanctions on the racist clique, Dr Ekwueme, they continue, does not want delegates to consider sanctions as an act of strict vengence. The papers quote: The specific elements in breach of international peace and security created by South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia are agonies which are of grave concern. They add it is simply that South Africa's act of illegality has given rise to consequences of the gravest magnitude characterized by a serious threat to international peace and acts of aggression, all of which within the purview of Article 39 of the charter.

AUDU OPPOSED TO ROLE IN CHAD NEUTRAL FORCE

AB252215 Paris AFP in French 1900 GMT 25 May 81

[Excerpts] Lagos, 25 May (AFP)--Nigeria does not intend to be a part of the neutral force whose dispatch to Chad has been agreed to by President Goukouni Queddei and will remain faithful to the Lagos accords which do not permit any neighbor of Chad to make up part of that inter-African force, according to Prof Ishaya Audu, Nigerian minister of foreign affairs.

In a communique published in Lagos, the minister affirmed that Nigeria is opposed to a proposal by the Chadian Government which would modify the composition of the neutral force to include Nigerian troops. The composition of the neutral force has been set by the OAU and any change should be made by that body. The final decision on the composition of the neutral force and all that is associated with it, concludes the minister, will be made at the OAU summit in Nairobi next June.

REPORTS, COMMENT ON CAMEROON BORDER CLASH CONTINUE

Delegation to Lagos

AB221356 Paris AFP in English 1348 GMT 22 May 81

[Text] Yaounde, 22 May [AFP]--Cameroon is sending its Foreign Ministry number-two to Nigeria on Sunday to discuss the border clash at sea that killed five Nigerian military men last weekend. An official statement in this Cameroon capital said today that the minister of state for foreign affairs, Paul Dontsop, would head the delegation to Lagos.

The statement repeated Yaounde's claim that the exchange of fire Saturday between a Cameroon Government vessel and Nigerian Armed Forces had taken place in Cameroon waters off the Rio del Rey, which forms the border of the two West African states near the Gulf of Guinea.

The Nigerians, in a statement Tuesday, demanded an apology from Cameroon within a week, as well as reparation for the death and three serious injuries to military men aboard two Nigerian vessels. Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu pushed the confrontation further the next day, saying Lagos would fight back. We feel it is in the best interest of Cameroon to settle this matter peacefully, Mr Audu said. "It will not be in her interest to take on Nigeria militarily."

After the incident, Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo sent a commission of inquiry to the scene. He received its report before ordering Mr Dontsop to Lagos.

House Committee Investigation

AB240710 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 May 81

[Text] The House of Representatives subcommittee on defense is to conduct on-the-spot investigations into the recent border clashes between Nigeria and the Republic of Cameroon. The chairman of the committee of the House of Representatives, (J. Labban), said the subcommittee would visit Calabar and Ikang in the Cross River state to assess the situation there. The committee [words indistinct] will also see the progress being made by Nigeria to set up administrative posts at the border with Cameroon. Representative (Labban) condemned the killing of five Nigerian soldiers and pointed out that Cameroon had always refused to cooperate with Nigeria's authorities in spite of a boundary agreement.

President Ahidjo's Message

AB250927 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] President Ahmadou Ahidjo of the Cameroons has sent a special message to President Shehu Shagari following the death of five Nigerian soldiers in an incident involving both countries' patrol boats. In the message President Ahidjo deplored the killings and expressed his regret as well as that of his government and people. The message also contained proposals for working out a peaceful solution to the problem, which is being urgently and seriously studied by the Federal Government of Nigeria. The special message was delivered in Lagos yesterday by a delegation from Cameroon headed by the foreign minister, Mr Paul Donstop. The other members of the delegation were Mr Bello Bouba, a minister in the president's office and Cameroon ambassador in Nigeria, Al Hadji Yerima Lamine.

Shagari Reply

AB251528 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] The National Security Council [NSC] says the message from the Cameroonian leader to President Shehu Shagari on the issue of five Nigerian soldiers killed by Cameroonian troops does not cover all the grounds contained in the note to the government of that country. Accordingly, the president has sent an appropriate reply on the outstanding issues.

In a statement in Lagos today, the council said it, however, noted the sincere regret of government and people of Cameroon republic who deplored the loss of life of the Nigerian soldiers. The Nigerian authorities had asked for reparation and full compensation to the bereaved families, apprehension and punishment of the soldiers involved in the killing as well as apology for the loss of life.

DAILY SKETCH Comment

AB261131 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 May 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY SKETCH frowns at the sending of a Cameroonian junior minister to deliver President Ahmadou Ahidjo's response to the Federal Government's ultimatum regarding the recent killing of five Nigerian soldiers by that country's troops. The paper wonders why President Ahidjo does not consider the situation serious enough to warrant his coming or sending a senior minister. The SKETCH, however, urges the Federal Government to be uncompromising on its stand over the issue.

ANGOLA

GDR TRADE UNION CHAIRMAN TISCH VISITS LUANDA

Discussion With Dos Santos

LD251322 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1230 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] Luanda, 25 May (ADN correspondent)--Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, today received Harry Tisch, Free German Trade Union League chairman and member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee Politburo, for a cordial talk in Luanda. Tisch presented a message from Erich Honecker, which was grateful received by the president. During the talk questions of the further deepening of friendly relations between the two parties and peoples as well as international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

Harry Tisch condemned the continuing criminal acts of aggression by the South African racist regime against the People's Republic of Angola. He affirmed the GDR's solidarity with the just struggle of the Angolan people for maintaining and safeguarding their sovereignty and independence, and for the creation of the bases for the development of socialism.

Harry Tisch called the talks held during the past few days between trade union delegations of the two countries a good foundation for the further deepening of friendship and cooperation.

Support for SWAPO

LD261040 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1745 GMT 25 May 81

[Text] Luanda, 25 May (ADN correspondent)--Free German Trade Union League Chairman Harry Tisch on 25 May affirmed the solidarity of the GDR people, including more than 9 million trade unionists, with the struggle of the Namibian people under SWAPO leadership against the unlawful occupation of Namibia by the South African apartheid regime. He conveyed this solidarity in a talk in Luanda with a delegation of SWAPO of Namibia led by David Meroro, national chairman and member of the SWAPO Central Committee Political Bureau. Both sides concurred that a just solution of the Namibia problem is possible only on the basis of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. Harry Tisch condemned all attempts to impose a neocolonialist regime on the people of Namibia.

MOZAMBIQUE

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

LD231650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 23 May 81 EA

[Text] In Maputo today Mozambique and Bulgaria signed a cooperation agreement covering the fields of equipment, technical assistance and professional training. The agreement, which also opens up prospects of long-term cooperation in the above-mentioned fields, was signed following talks between delegations from the two countries led by our country's minister of industry and power, Antonio Branco, and by the deputy chairman of the Committee of the Unified and Social System [Comite do Sistema Unificado e Social] of Bulgaria. Today Mozambique and Bulgaria also signed a protocol of cooperation in the field of information.